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Students, Admin Confer at Forum

By NICK GARBER AND DOMINICK TANOH
News Editor, Arts & Sciences Editor

Senior administrators held an open forum with students Tuesday evening, discussing the results of recent student surveys and fielding questions about institutional transparency and student life.

Student attendance at the event was relatively sparse, with the number of students roughly equaling the two dozen administrators present.

"There is a lack of student presence in the room," conceded Kyle Wright '19.5, who serves as Community Council Co-Chair. "A lot of students are jaded to an extent that engaging with the administration is deeply taxing, so there's a certain hump we need to get over in terms of re-engaging students to be able to do this work."

College dean Katy Smith Abbott began the event by discussing the results of the 2016 CIRP senior survey. The survey is utilized by schools nationwide and conducted at Middlebury every two years, asking graduating seniors a range of questions regarding their time at Middlebury.

The 2016 survey, Smith Abbott said, "brought [the administration's] attention to the fact that the level of satisfaction with student social life had dropped noticeably between 2010 and 2016."

Specifically, the number of students who reported being very satisfied with social life at the college dropped from one in five in 2010 to one in 15 in 2016. Meanwhile, those who reported being dissatisfied with social life rose from one in five to one in three.

Within the group of schools that Middlebury considers its "peer institutions," Middlebury now ranks "at the bottom of the heap in terms of student satisfaction," Smith Abbott said.

The survey's troubling findings prompted the college to enlist Jim Terhune '86, a former dean of students at Colby College, to lead student focus groups in order to interpret the results.

Terhune found the top areas of student concern to be alcohol and partying culture, residential life and the commons system, student social space, diversity and inclu-

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AIDAN ACOSTA/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Students and administrators gathered at Wilson Hall in McCullough Student Center for an open forum Tuesday.

Discussing Campus Free Speech, Attorney General Implicates Middlebury

By NICK GARBER
News Editor

Attorney General Jeff Sessions dove into the debate over free speech on college campuses, delivering an address last week that denounced "political correctness" and directly referenced the protests that occurred here last March.

"Freedom of thought and speech on the American campus are under attack," Sessions said. "The American university was once the center of academic freedom—a place of robust debate, a forum for the competition of ideas. But it is transforming into an echo chamber of political correctness and homogenous thought, a shelter for fragile egos."

In his speech, given Tuesday, Sept. 26 at Georgetown University, Sessions also suggested that the Department of Justice would begin to involve itself in free speech disputes, even those taking place on private college campuses.

Sessions noted that public events at several colleges have recently been shut down due to student protests, naming the March 2 protests of Charles Murray as one such "frightening example."

"Student protestors violently shut down a debate between an invited speaker and one of the school's own professors," Sessions said of Middlebury. "As soon as the event began, the protesters shouted for 20 minutes, preventing the debate from occurring."

"When the debaters attempted to move to a private broadcasting location, the protesters — many in masks, a common tactic also used by the detestable Ku Klux Klan — pulled fire alarms, surrounded the speakers, and began physically assaulting them. In short, Middlebury students engaged in a violent riot to ensure that neither they nor their fellow students would hear speech they may have disagreed with."

Later in his speech, Sessions announced that the Department of Justice would lend its support to an evangelical Christian student at Georgia Gwinnett College, who is suing his school on First Amendment grounds after administrators limited where he could preach.

In order to intervene in the Georgia case, Sessions said the Justice Department would rely on a statement of interest — essentially a formal show of support for the government's preferred side in a pending lawsuit. Such statements have proved to be powerful means of influencing individual cases, and were used heavily by the Obama administration in civil rights suits.

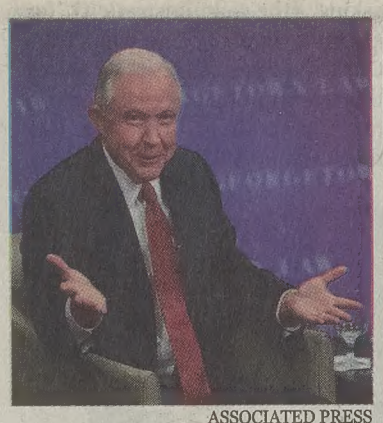
Sessions suggested that the Georgia lawsuit is only the first of many cases in which the Justice Department plans to ally itself with student free speech advocates.

"We will enforce federal law, defend free speech, and protect students' free expression from whatever end of the political spectrum it may come," he said. "To that end, we are filing a statement of interest in a campus free speech case this week and we will be filing more in the weeks and months to come."

An administrator told The Campus that there is no litigation currently pending against Middlebury in a federal court, but reiterated the college's commitment to free speech and freedom of inquiry, per its Freedom of Expression Policy.

College spokesman Bill Burger took issue with Sessions' characterization of the Murray protests.

"It's regrettable that the attorney general's recounting of the events at Middlebury College last March was so carelessly inaccurate," he said.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Attorney General Jeff Sessions addressed students at Georgetown University on Sept. 26.

VERMONTER IS KILLED IN LAS VEGAS MASSACRE

By ETHAN BRADY
Editor in Chief

Sandy Casey, a special education teacher who grew up in Dorset, Vermont, was among the at least 59 people killed in a mass shooting on Sunday night in Las Vegas. She was 35.

Casey was engaged to be married to her fiancé, Christopher Willemse, with whom she attended the Route 91 Harvest country music festival on Vegas' main strip, where the shooting took place. Casey's family learned early Monday morning that she died on the scene of the shooting.

The daughter of Teresa and Steven Casey of Dorset, Casey graduated from Burr and Burton Academy in Manchester in 2000 and earned bachelor's and master's degrees in special education from the College of St. Joseph in Rutland. She has taught special education for nine years at Manhattan Beach Middle School in Manhattan Beach, California.

Her fiancé, an instructional assistant for the school district, wrote on Facebook the day after the shooting: "As I sit and mourn such a beautiful life gone too fast, all I can say is look up and watch the birds fly high and free today, as that's where I feel you smiling down upon all of us. I love you baby girl! Love you to pieces!"

Casey was a "fun-loving free spirit" who was always smiling, according to Dorset town clerk Sandra Pinsonault. "The community is definitely feeling the loss today," Pinsonault said in an interview with the Burlington Free Press.

Mike Matthews, the Manhattan Beach superintendent, said Casey was an energetic teacher who delighted in her students.

"She was a person who brings light wherever she is," Matthews said. "She has a classroom full of light and hope and caring. She is loved by students and colleagues alike and will be forever remembered for her sense of humor, her passion for her work, her devotion to her students, and her commitment to continuing on her own learning and to taking on whatever new projects came her way," the superintendent wrote.

"She has made a tremendous difference in the lives of her students, and their families," he said.

Burr and Burton Academy held a moment of silence for Casey on Monday morning during a weekly assembly in the school's gymnasium.

Both Vermont senators expressed grief over Casey's death in statements posted on Twitter.

"Jane and I are deeply saddened to hear that Vermonter Sandy Casey was among the victims in Vegas," Bernie Sanders said. "Our hearts are with her friends & family." Patrick Leahy wrote that "Our prayers are with her and her family."

Casey "was a beautiful girl and a beautiful person," said her mother, Teresa, in an interview with VTDigger. The family then released a statement asking for privacy.

"Her parents ask for prayers and privacy for her sisters, coworkers, students and large extended family," the statement read.

Late-Night Alarm Jolts Atwater Residents from Saturday Slumber

By ELIZABETH SAWYER
News Editor

In the early hours of Oct. 1, a carbon monoxide alarm went off in the Atwater A building, forcing students to vacate their beds and wait outside the building for two hours.

Lisa Burchard, director of Public Safety and associate dean of the college, described what happened that morning in an email to The Campus.

"At 1:11 a.m. Public Safety received a carbon monoxide (CO) alarm from the alarm monitoring system," she said. "The telecommunicator dispatched officers and the Middlebury Fire Department (MFD) to the location of the alarm at Atwater Hall A. By 1:30 a.m., Facilities Services was notified of the CO alarm and informed that MFD was responding."

Despite the alarm, there was no danger. A faulty carbon monoxide detector had triggered the alarm.

"MFD arrived and cleared the building as is our policy," Burchard said. "They determined there was no CO leak in the building. At 2:30 a.m., Facilities Services determined that a CO detector in the building had failed, replaced it, and reset the control panel."

Charlotte Frankel '18.5 lives in the Atwater suite that housed the defective alarm.

"We left the building around 12:50 a.m., I think," Frankel said. "Public Safety was there immediately, and they said the fire department had to come before the alarm could be shut off. I spoke with one of the Public Safety officers, who informed me that it was the carbon monoxide alarm and although it was probably a false alarm, the fire department needed to come and do a full sweep to be safe."

Another resident of Atwater A, Margaret Pollack '18, shared a similar experience.

"Morale was desperately low," Pollack said. "Plus, the keypads aren't working in the A building, so I've heard of peers and neighbors of mine who were then locked out because they had forgotten to grab their physical key when they tried to return after the alarm went off."

"I went over to the other side and slept on a couch in my friends' suite but I don't know what people did if they didn't have other friends in Atwater B," Pollack said.

After the alarm had been going off for some time, a Public Safety officer found Ryan Rudolph '18 in his room in Atwater A.

"I woke up to a firefighter and Public Safety tapping me to wake up. They told me I needed to go outside. I was very confused since nobody was outside, and it felt like I was late to the party," Rudolph said.

According to the college handbook, a student who fails to leave a building during a fire alarm will be fined $200.

"I was informed that I had slept through the alarm for 40 minutes. [The officer] claimed that nobody sleeps through that alarm, and said I was going to be getting a fine. He made it seem as if I was trying to evade the alarm, but my explanation was that I wasn't trying to die of carbon monoxide and I was just in a heavy sleep. I proceeded to go to the other Atwater building and sleep on the floor," Rudolph said.

Meanwhile, Frankel passed the time with friends as the alarm continued to ring. Eventually residents were allowed to reenter the building, and an electrician arrived to inspect the alarm.

"The alarm remained on for this entire time — I went to a friend's room and then to the Atwater A lounge, where many of us were congregated. We went back into the building around 2:40 a.m. Michael the electrician came up to our suite pretty soon after we returned and let me know that one of our three carbon monoxide alarms wasn't working," Frankel said.

She was finally able to rest after Michael finished his work.

"He was incredibly nice and conscientious of the lateness, answering all of my questions and doing his best to fix the alarm with as little light and noise as possible," Frankel said. "He replaced the alarm with a new one and then I passed out."

While the duration of the alarm may have been unusual, Burchard says the response was typical for the situation.

"I've spoken with Facilities and they describe the above as a normal business process and typical response to an event of this kind. The first priority was the safety of the students in Atwater," she said.

CHARLOTTE FRANKEL

An electrician replaces the faulty carbon monoxide detector in Atwater suite ABP.

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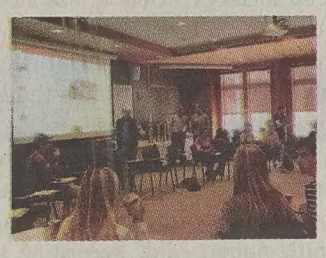

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Students Talk Study Abroad During Trump Era

By BOCHU DING
Contributing Writer

Following a tumultuous election cycle, Trump's divisive victory astonished the nation, and its aftershocks were felt around the world. On Oct. 2, Student panelists Shane Healy '18, Vignesh Ramachandran '18, Dan Adamek '18 and Eleanor Eagan '18 shared the unique experience of studying abroad against the backdrop of Trump's ascent to power. The event was sponsored by the Rohatyn Center for Global Affairs in partnership with International Studies and Off-Campus Study as its 15th Anniversary International Dinner and Panel. The event, entitled "Being Abroad In The Trump Era," took place in the Atwater Dining Hall.

Healy, Ramachandran, Adamek and Eagan, who studied abroad in Japan, Jordan, France, and Morocco respectively, shared their own anecdotes before answering questions from moderator Tamar Mayer and the audience.

Eagan, the first panelist to speak, focused on the difficulty of finding refuge from American politics while studying abroad and the frustration of being unable to act in a time of political tension.

"When I was getting ready to go abroad, I was actually pretty excited to be leaving the U.S.," Eagan said. "The rhetoric had become pretty toxic at that point and it wasn't particularly fun following the news. I was, I guess naïvely at this point, confident that Hillary Clinton was going to win the election, and I wasn't particularly worried about the Trump phenomenon. In Morocco, I mostly found refuge from talking about American politics and Trump."

Following the result of the election, Eagan returned to the U.S. for winter break and attended the inauguration. She would later participate in the Women's March in Montpelier, VT before having to quickly return to Morocco. Eagan noted that returning to Morocco following her brief break was especially challenging.

"I was feeling like I wanted to do something, and I knew going to Morocco that it was easy to become apathetic when you aren't living in [the U.S.]," Eagan said.

Ramachandran, who studied in Jordan, felt that Trump's presidency prompted more discussions about politics. Since the Arabic language curriculum introduced the subject of the U.N. very early on, he quickly established the linguistic foundations to facilitate such conversations about the political climate in the U.S.

Exploring the topic of Trump's presidency in a spectrum of settings between classrooms and taxi cabs, Ramachandran concluded that there was a dual phenomenon of a fascination and disappointment with the U.S in Jordan. The disillusionment with the U.S. stems mainly from its policies against refugees, Ramachandran said.

"There were a lot of people who carried resentment for the United States, and we saw that, especially [toward] the people who thought Trump would be a valid solution [to the refugee crisis]," Ramachandran said.

In Paris, Adamek also engaged in political discussions as France encountered a similar rise of right-wing nationalism.

"In the days following, [the results of the French election] elicited fears that a similar situation was unfolding in France during the French election," Adamek said.

During his time in Paris, Adamek was often approached and questioned about how the Trump victory unfolded, with many hoping to prevent a similar scenario in France. Thus, despite living abroad, Adamek felt connected to the political climate of the U.S. through a similar rise of right-wing nationalism within France.

Healy noted a fascinating phenomenon during his studies in Japan where interest toward the U.S. election dissipated after the results were released.

"My perception, in general, about how [Trump's rise] was perceived in Japan was that it was all about the election," Healy said. "Once the election had finished and there was a candidate who had won the presidency, interest went way down. I felt that a lot of the people around me were just waiting for an answer."

In addition, Healy spoke about how media coverage greatly influenced public opinion on Trump. During the election, Japanese media wrote unfavorably of Trump in response to his criticism of Japan's trade laws and security spending. However, after a relatively successful meeting between Trump and Prime Minister Shinzō Abe, the media toned down its criticism and opinions of the President began to neutralize.

Despite the varying experiences and narratives of the panelists who studied abroad, a shared emotion was the discomfort of trying to explain the situation without all of the answers.

Eagan remembers regretting her decision to disclose the news with her host mother, as she quickly became the fount of knowledge on the matter. Adamek faced a similar experience in the classroom setting.

"Everybody would look to me as the American reference in the room," Adamek said, "But I wouldn't know what to say."

STONE WALKWAYS REPLACE COWPATHS

By KYLE NAUGHTON
News Editor

The facilities staff at the college has recently begun the process of updating sidewalks throughout campus, successfully overseeing the construction of three new stone pathways surrounding Proctor dining hall. These pathways are intended to make traversing campus both more convenient and safer for the community.

"In facilities, we're quite concerned with accessibility, and we want to make sure that you can walk on all the sidewalks well," said Time Parsons, a landscape horticulturalist at the college. "We're extremely wary of areas next to sidewalks where the dirt has worn away due to erosion. If [the path] dips down enough, you could potentially twist your ankle and get injured."

The facilities team initially conceived the idea to update Middlebury's sidewalk infrastructure last spring, and began constructing the new paths prior to the start of the academic year.

The mason who constructed the paths was Brad Lambert, who works for the college's carpentry department. Parsons said the paths only took "a couple of days" to build.

In order to maximize the effectiveness of the new pathways, Parsons and the facilities team carefully observed student movement patterns and used their findings to decide where to install new pathways. Many students, for example, used to cut across a flower bed in front of Proctor dining hall to reach the language tables entrance. After the facilities team identified this makeshift pathway, they decided to turn it into a formal brick pathway.

"Sidewalks in general are really hard to lay out," Parsons said. "It seems to be a real urban mentality to stay on the sidewalk because when you're in the city, stepping off usually means getting hit by a car. But in a place like this, it's damn cold, and you want to get from point A to point B as fast as possible, and if there's not a walkway there, you don't care as much."

The new sidewalks are made of granite stones instead of conventional concrete due to the constructional constraints of filling new sections of concrete near older sidewalks.

"There's a lot more to a sidewalk than what you see, as there might be a foot and a half of concrete underneath," Parsons said. "If you have a corner where two sidewalks meet, pouring concrete can get tough. We thought that these granite stones would then be a lot easier and more manageable, so we picked three or four key spots on campus to test them out."

Because the durability of these granite stones in cold conditions is still unclear, the college is holding off on building additional stone pathways until after this winter.

"[The stones] may move too much in the winter, we might not be able to plow on top of them, or the frost might lift them up," Parsons said. "This is really a trial run. We do not yet know whether the cost of these stones will outweigh that of concrete. When we do figure that out, we certainly may add more of these pathways; we're always looking to upgrade, but it's really too soon to say."

Moving forward, Parsons urges students to voice their opinion on whether current pathways require maintenance or if additional sidewalks are needed in certain areas of campus.

"I'm always open to hearing from students where it's hard to walk or where sidewalks should be," Parsons said. "There are some key spots that I know of, and [updating Middlebury's pathways] is on a large to-do list that we have."

EMMA STAPLETON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
The new granite pathway in front of Proctor dining hall.

Renovated Crest Room Now Serves as Lounge

By ALLY MURPHY
Senior Writer

The Crest Room in McCullough Student Center has been redesigned into a lounge space, reserved for faculty and staff during weekdays and accessible to students on weekday evenings and weekends.

The renovations began in August and lasted one month. Changes include new furniture, carpeting, and the addition of a transparent railing system for the stairs and loft, intended to make the space more open and inviting.

The renovations grew out of an ongoing conversation that began last fall concerning the role of McCullough, said Karina Toy '17, who served last year as President of the Student Government Association (SGA) and was at the center of the discussions.

"We originally pursued this to make the McCullough Student Center feel more like a student center," Toy said. "It started with SGA's resolution in the fall around creating a wall for free self expression, grew with the idea of retaking McCullough for students and ended with proposals about redesigning McCullough in general." Since renovating the room into a student lounge was the simplest and most cost-effective change to make, Toy said, the administration endorsed the change.

The space evolved into a faculty lounge following a compromise between the SGA and the faculty, Toy explained.

"At the same time we were planning this, the Faculty Council was asking [the administration] for a faculty lounge," she said. "The Crest Room was one of the rooms they were proposing, so we came to a compromise. The idea was that students wouldn't be using the Crest Room anyway during the day on weekdays, and would use it during the evenings/weekends."

SGA Senator Rae Aaron '19.5 defended the arrangement as a temporary fix.

"The SGA is pushing really hard to make McCullough a student-focused center, but the reality is that we need to be flexible with spaces on campus and recognize that faculty and staff also need work spaces and lounges," she said. "Sharing the Crest Room between faculty and students is a great short-term compromise, but ideally we will be able to find a new location for a faculty lounge and give students full access to the Crest Room."

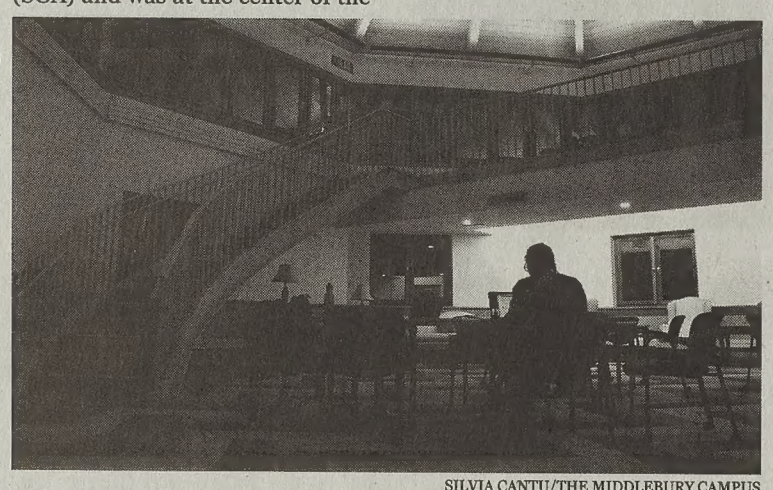
Toy noted that the renovations could improve the atmosphere of the student center.

"A lot of the feedback we got from students was that McCullough didn't feel like a student space because the moment you entered you saw staff or students having formal meetings," she said. "Hopefully, this change will make McCullough more welcoming to students, at least until a new student center can be built or completely renovated."

Some students have expressed concern about the shared nature of the space.

"While it's a brilliant idea that the Crest Room is opening its doors for both faculty and students, I think it might be a challenge to regulate who uses the space at which times," Ayesha Bhalla '20 said.

Others expressed optimism about the arrangement. "While the student center may be meant for students, I don't think that it's a problem that it's meant for faculty during the day," Sarah Schmid '20 said. "I think that the newly designed space is a great compromise and makes a lot of sense."



SILVIA CANTU/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
The new Crest Room lounge is available to students on weekday evenings and weekends.

Administration Addresses Student Dissatisfaction, Distrust and Distress

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sion, and student-administration relations.

With regard to drinking culture, Smith Abbott said the focus groups revealed a need for new social opportunities not involving alcohol.

"Rather than imagining that non-drinkers and moderate drinkers will just figure it out, there's a need to be more intentional about partnering with that cohort of students to develop a plan for what social life looks like," she said.

Focus groups revealed mixed perceptions of the commons system, Smith Abbott said. First-years reported positive experiences with residential life, finding that the commons system helped them form relationships and navigate college life.

Considerable dissatisfaction emerged with the Feb program. The often-isolated Feb housing and lack of access to First-Year Counselors contributed to these negative attitudes, Smith Abbott said.

Terhune's recommendations concerning the commons system included conducting an external review of the commons system, working to increase the number of social houses and integrating Feb and first-year housing.

Terhune also identified discontent about the lack of suitable social spaces on campus. Many identified dining halls as the only social spaces they used regularly.

"What was striking to [Terhune] when he first started talking to students was the extent to which the dining halls played a major role in how students understood social experience," she said. "So there's a level of imaginative programming development that still lies ahead for us when thinking about dining spaces."

Student feedback concerning diversity and inclusion was "both not surprising and really tough," Smith Abbott said. According to Terhune's findings, students of color often feel as though they are "less than fully-vested members of the community," reporting feeling physically unsafe on campus and not valued by the college.

Finally, Terhune found relations between the student body and administration to be "strained"—likely an understatement, Smith Abbott noted. Students largely perceived the administration to be out-of-touch and untrustworthy, concerned more with maintaining the school's image than responding to the needs of its students.

Smith Abbott stressed the importance of student-administration communications. "Almost every other section of the report is impacted by this section," she said. "If we're going to make any headway on any of these recombinations, it will be because we make headway here."

Administrators addressed these palpable gaps in trust between students and the administration. "It's based on personal relationships." Smith-Abbott said in response to a question on concrete steps the college is rebuild ties. "You're right that if people don't want to step into those relationships and they don't trust someone enough to start to build on a more personal level with staff, faculty, and administrators it's hard to move anything."

Elizabeth Dunn '18 followed this question by sharing concerns about the perception that the voices of alumni and trustees are privileged over the voices of current students of the College, and the role that donations play as a "middleman" between what the students want and what the administration is able to do.

There was a "divide in the alumni population as well as among parents about how the situation was treated on campus," noted Meghan Foley Williamson '17, an administrator in the Advancement Office. "Some showed great sympathy and empathy with the student situation, while others were quite adamant that there should be more discipline and more stringent policies."

Williamson went on to note that some donors were not inclined to support Middlebury in the short term but there were others who wanted to continue financial ties. The net result was an almost flat result in fundraising but a small overall decline in donors.

David Donahue '91, an assistant to college President Laurie Patton, went on to speak about transparency on the board of trustees, noting that that the entire structure of the trustee board was changed three years ago to add a student constituent overseer who is also part of the college board of overseers.

Finally, Donahue shared that the College is "exploring the possibility for student liaisons to different standing committees to increase student access." He also said he is willing to sit down with members of the student body for conversations about topical issues.

Judicial dean Karen Guttentag also expressed her hopes on making "structural working more transparent so people's expectation on where they can go and when are their voices welcome and when are there moment where they may not have a voice and someone else will make a decision and why that might be."

Faculty dean Andrea Lloyd noted that questions asked by students were "very similar" to those coming from the faculty and that "sense of trust in our community has been broken and that we have serious heeling to do is not unique to students, but something that cuts across community."

Shifting to more financial matters, financial administrator David Provost stressed that the administration, not the board of trustees, remains the main decision maker. In regards to transparency, Provost and Patton are exploring options for sharing the financial realities of the college such as the fact that it takes "277 million dollars a year to run this institution."

Provost later shared more justification on the new swipe system in the dining halls, maintaining that students should not be buying lunch for non-students. Provost went on to stress that the swipe system offers new data that could help to better the dining experience.

In response to questions about the possible impact of financial constraints on the college, Provost shared that Middlebury has not been "living within its operating means for five years. The dollars that we bring in from comprehensive fees, release from the endowment and gifts are not covering expenses. Last year that loss was almost 17 million dollars." Provost continued that when compared to the 1.1 billion dollar endowment of the college this is not truly a crisis. Rather, the college is striving to be more responsible to students and alumni and cutting waste such as 51 Main which drained 200,000 dollars a year.

Dining director Dan Detora stressed that discussions on various options for a meal plan have been brought before various committees and the SGA but more consequential answer necessitates a "serious input from the student body."

Addressing complaints against the swipe machines, Detora noted efforts are being made to speed up the systems, but the influx of 1400 students at peak lunch hours guarantees a line no matter what.

Student Teachers Connect College and Community

By REBECCA WALKER
Local Editor

At Middlebury College, students pursuing education degrees are not encouraged to "teach for America," but rather to "teach for real," according to Tracy Weston, an assistant professor in the education department.

Students who are interested in obtaining a Vermont teaching licensure at the end of their studies will complete a professional semester through the college, during which they student practice teaching in local schools.

Required coursework precedes the student teaching program. Aspiring student teachers must take several courses: Education in the USA, Culturally Relevant Pedagogy, Models of Inclusive Education and at least two psychology courses.

"We're trying to have all of those courses complete as a solid foundation in advance of our students moving onto the 'methods of teaching' classes where students learn how to teach specific topics in schools," Weston said.

COURTESY PHOTO
Chelsea Colby '17.5 was excited for the start of school at Mary Hogan.

These methods courses are taken as a sequence throughout the fall, winter and spring during the final full year that students are at Middlebury and not yet student teaching. About half of the education students at Middlebury take these methods courses during their junior year and student teach during the fall of their senior year. The other half take the methods courses senior year and return to student teach for a ninth semester after they graduate.

During these methods courses, Middlebury students start to work with the kids and teachers in local schools at some point during their class time.

Irene Margiotta '19 is in this stage of her licensure program this fall, spending two days a week at the high school before she student teaches full time during the fall of her senior year.

"What I'm doing right now is new," Margiotta said. "They wanted to start to introduce the college students to the schools and the schools to the college students a little earlier."

Middlebury's education studies program aims to teach students how to plan a lesson, how to find resources, how to connect with valuable community members and importantly, how to have "difficult and important conversations with young people," Weston said.

She cited projects that focused on agency and racial inequity, about which Middlebury students could converse with their young students in the classroom. Weston noted that in her experiences, these are topics that Middlebury students tend to feel strongly about, which gives them emotional connections to their work with young school kids.

"This program is definitely not doing elementary education as 'facts and crafts,' that's not really our approach at all," Weston said. "We have a really strong social justice part of our mission statement, which we are honoring and carrying through all of our course work."

Although the Middlebury student teaching program is still growing, Weston hopes that the creation of the new education studies double major will promote or at least spread awareness of this collaborative program that Middlebury organizes with local schools.

"I hope that more Middlebury students become aware of and seriously consider committing to the double major through our licensure program to engage in the thoughtful, deliberate work that is required to be a well-prepared teacher," Weston said. "It isn't enough to be smart and well-intentioned and think that absolves you of the responsibility to be prepared before entering a classroom."

Weston explained that the current setup of the student teaching program at Middlebury took root four years ago when they "started making a turn back into schools." However, the program is constantly being revamped to best meet learning goals and requirements. This fall, five Middlebury student teachers are engaged in initiating conversations and presenting materials in unique ways to kids in the local area. Next fall, there will be nine more.

"[The Middlebury students] have grown a lot in that they realize how ready and eager young people are to have important conversations about current events and issues, that even we as adults are struggling with," Weston said.

Since Vermont is one of the least racially diverse states in the country, Middlebury students must learn how to navigate leading and participating in difficult conversations in a largely homogenous classroom. Additionally, they learn to present materials and information in ways that are interesting and engaging for young people. Chelsea Colby '17.5, one of the Middlebury student teachers this fall, noted the challenges that these important conversations bring.

"You will come across questions you cannot answer and new situations you never thought you would have to deal with," Colby said. "My cooperating teacher has modeled for me that you just need to be flexible and willing to change plans to best meet the needs of the students."

Nora O'Leary '17 expressed similar appreciation for the lessons she is taking away from her students and host teacher as she student teaches in a fourth grade classroom at Mary Hogan this fall.

"As a teacher, each new day provides a different challenge, a unique and delicate problem to solve, feelings to heal and topics to tackle," O'Leary said. "It's been a joy to watch how my cooperating teacher navigates all of these with grace and tact."

Middlebury's student teaching program currently works with all nine of the schools in the Addison Central School District: Bridport, Cornwall, Mary Hogan, Ripton, Salisbury, Shoreham and Weybridge Elementary Schools; Middlebury Union Middle School; and Middlebury Union High School.

Weybridge Elementary's principal, Christina Johnston, explained that Weybridge has grade levels K–6, with only four very small classrooms. Johnston expressed confidence in the ways that Weybridge teachers think a lot about their practices so that they can serve as good examples for the Middlebury students and show them how to teach with "strong goals of learning."

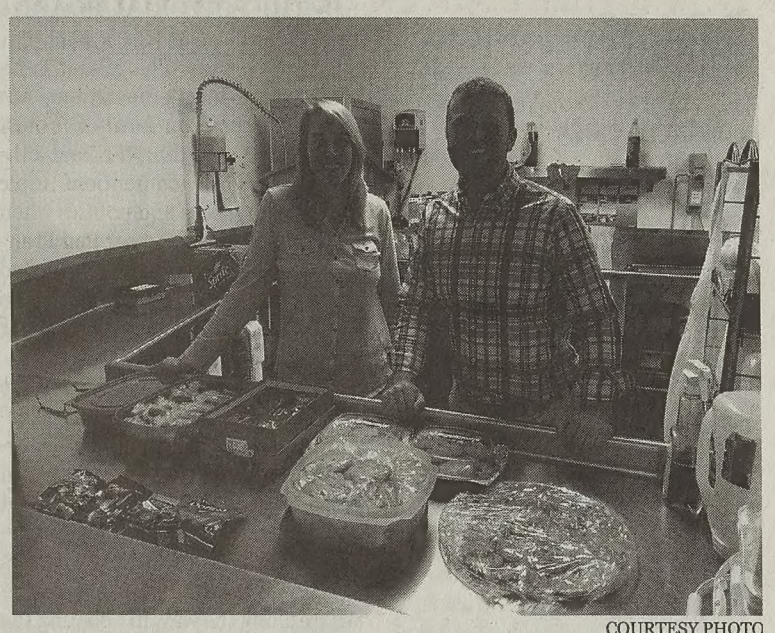
Johnston acknowledges that the new education studies double major is beneficial not only for the college, but for the Addison Central School District which will profit from the thoughtful students entering the field.

She regularly witnesses reflective conversations happening between teachers and Middlebury students as they look for opportunities to take the next steps in the classroom and learning process. She also appreciates the unique relationship that develops between young kids and college students.

"There is something magical about the age of college students. They are seen by the kids as 'having arrived,'" Johnston said. "There's recognition of them having made it in some way, so there's a great admiration."

On the flip side, Johnston acknowledged that Middlebury students also have a lot to learn from young locals in the Middlebury area.

"If you're watching and listening closely, you really do begin to understand that humans intrepidly are trying to understand things, that's their job, and the kids are so earnest about that,"Johnston said.



COURTESY PHOTO
Harrison Schroder '17.5 with host teacher before a middle school dance.

Kristina Ohl '17, a Middlebury graduate who is in full-time student teaching semester this fall, acknowledged this ability to learn from young kids. Ohl student teaches in a fifth grade classroom at Mary Hogan, where she is required to provide instruction in every subject.

"I have learned from students that you should never underestimate them and you should always expect the best out of every student," Ohl said. "I've also learned to be flexible and that no two students are the same. Sometimes we have to be creative about how to meet the needs of each student and include everyone."

Leigh Harder, a cooperating teacher at Weybridge Elementary, strives to teach student teachers the value, challenges and rewards of teaching a wide range of students in the classroom.

"One of my biggest goals in working with student teachers is to convey that elementary education is a profession that is demanding, intellectually stimulating and immensely satisfying," Harder said.

Cooperating teachers at other schools in the area follow this approach as well. Julie Berg, a fourth grade teacher at Mary Hogan, shared that this is her first year with a student teacher and that she can already see how both she and the student teacher will benefit from the program.

Berg said that she involves her student teacher heavily in all of her planning, including the writing of a new International Baccalaureate (IB) unit for the class. Berg also emphasized the benefit of being able to observe her own classroom while the student teacher is leading the learning.

"Elementary education is a profession that is demanding, intellectually stimulating and immensely satisfying."

The shift to the IB unit mentioned by Berg is something that will benefit the teaching practices of all of the student teachers going through the Addison Central School District now. Harrison Schroder '17.5, a student teacher in a seventh grade science classroom at Middlebury Union Middle School, has witnessed those benefits.

"Within the local Addison Central School District, the transition to the IB program, which I was fortunate enough to be trained in, will provide me with more tools, strategies and confidence to help students become more inquisitive and find meaning in their own education," Schroder said.

Although, according to Weston, most Middlebury students do not choose to stay in Vermont to teach after completing their programs, there are still many lessons to take away from the schools in the local district. One of those lessons is the strength of community in smaller school districts.

"I believe that teaching at small schools in Vermont has shown me one way that public education can operate," Colby said. "Working in the schools I feel I have been able to invest in the community and get to know so many teachers, students and families. I feel grateful for the closeness this small community uses to its advantage and I know that wherever I decide to teach in the future I will take with me the lesson of investing in the community and in families to work to provide students the best possible education."

Weston also noted the beneficial experience of working with the degree of diversity in the local schools.

"We have more economic diversity that sometimes folks won't recognize," Weston said. "There are income disparities that exist throughout the county and throughout the school district."

Johnston and Berg emphasized this level of diversity, sharing that their classrooms offer young people who come from a variety of experiences and family backgrounds, despite apparent racial homogeneity.

Weston stated that her method of teaching "will resonate with Middlebury students who are also looking for ways to 'contribute to a more just, compassionate and equitable society, as our mission statement says, and who are interested in increasing access and equity, which is the focus of our local school district."

He's 13 Years Old and Running for Governor

By BRIDGET COLLITON
Local Editor

Ethan Sonneborn, an eighth grade student at Mount Abraham Union Middle School, announced this month his campaign for a spot in Vermont's 2018 gubernatorial race. Sonneborn, a Democrat, aims to inspire other young people to participate in politics at any level.

"We need to engage young people in the process," Sonneborn said in an interview.

Vermont is one of the few states that does not place an age requirement on gubernatorial candidates. Vermont's youngest governor was 34-year-old F. Rey Keyser, Jr., who was elected in 1960. Gubernatorial candidates are only required to have resided in Vermont for at least four years, a requirement that Sonneborn, a lifelong Vermonter, has already passed.

Sonneborn has been interested in politics and history for most of his life, after finding a photo of Robert F. Kennedy in an encyclopedia. He was just five years old. He even talked with his kindergarten teacher about becoming president someday.

"I really see a lot of pessimism in America right now. I've always thought America needs a fresh vision."

His interest in politics turned into action in middle school, when he led a peaceful protest against a school ban on talking during his lunch periods. He and his friends held signs and refused to eat until administrators lifted the ban.

Unlike most 13-year-olds, Sonneborn has developed nuanced positions on many of the issues currently plaguing both Vermont and the nation at large. He supports marijuana legalization and further protections for LGBT individuals. His first priority if elected would be to reform Vermont Health Connect, Vermont's health insurance marketplace, in order to ensure that more Vermonters have access to affordable healthcare.

"These issues affect the entire nation, but I believe Vermont could lead the way in solving them," Sonneborn said.

Sonneborn is most passionate about combatting apathy in politics. His mission to engage young people in the political process could prove to be challenging, as historically young people are less likely to participate in politics than their older counterparts. The General Social Survey conducted in 2014 revealed that millennials are less likely to vote than other generations, despite engaging in other forms of political action, as reported by The Washington Post.

"I really see a lot of pessimism in America right now. I've always thought America needs a fresh vision," Sonneborn said.

Sonneborn has gotten many of his friends involved in his campaign as well. He launched his campaign a couple of weeks before the new school year began, and on his first day back, many of his friends asked to work on his campaign.

"My formal senior staff is almost entirely comprised of eighth graders. I think this helps — I was looking for people who cared about our state and wanted to help it through this time," Sonneborn said.

Despite the challenges that will come with running a gubernatorial campaign and attending the eighth grade, Sonneborn is confident in his abilities to effect change in Vermont politics while still fulfilling his duties as a student.

"So far I've been able to balance both [the campaign and school], but I think running for governor is also a valuable educational experience and my parents agree," Sonneborn said.

If Sonneborn wins the Democratic primary, he will most likely face incumbent Republican Phil Scott, who has not yet announced his reelection campaign but is expected to do so later this year. Democrat James Ehlers, the Executive Director of fishing and clean water advocacy organization Lake Champlain International, also announced a bid for governor in July 2017.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ETHAN SONNEBORN'S FACEBOOK PAGE
Ethan Sonneborn, age 13, is running for governor of Vermont.

Although his main focus is to win the general election in 2018, for now, Sonneborn hopes the campaign itself will help interest more young people in the political process.

"We really need people engaged in the political process. I really appreciate it when people tweet at the campaign. It's really important that we get people engaged," Sonneborn said.

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American Protestor

By THE EDITORIAL BOARD

Kneeling during the national anthem is a common form of protest right now — in the NFL and other settings. The contentious topic emerged in media and politics when Colin Kaepernick, former San Francisco 49ers quarterback, kneeled during the national anthem as an act of peaceful demonstration for Black Lives Matter in August 2016.

People have begun to debate whether or not the "kneeling" movement is anti-American, disrespectful and corrosive. Recently, in reference to "the kneel," President Trump referred to the NFL protesters as "sons of bitches." Others argue in Kaepernick's favor. Somewhere along the way, in debating the efficacy of "the kneel," we forgot the real, important reasons Kaepernick brought it to the table in the first place.

Discourse on the topic is decidedly fraught, and has been sensationalized in mainstream media outlets. But the Middlebury bubble is not immune to such conversations: "kneeling" during Nescac games has happened, too. Players kneeled in salute to Kaepernick's cause during an Amherst football game last fall, as well as during a Wesleyan basketball game back in February. With the fall sports season at Middlebury well underway, how will we grapple with such questions? Will we kneel? Will we respect those who do, and those who do not?

At Middlebury, and perhaps at many similar liberal arts institutions, American institutions are openly challenged. In the classroom, we spend much of our time learning about our nation's troubled past and present, fraught with injustices and inequalities. Sometimes, we learn things about our country we didn't realize and aren't proud of. It can lead some students to wonder if social justice movements can be conducted patriotically.

The rhetoric and imagery surrounding the national anthem protests seems to create the illusion of a social justice movement at odds with patriotism. Protesters accuse our country of hypocrisy. America's founding documents espouse "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" and rhetoric of opportunity while black bodies are gunned down by the police. Black NFL players and those in solidarity kneel to speak out against repeated, systemic violence. Not everyone feels safe in America; not everyone feels fully protected by state institutions.

We all want a fairer America, an America that lives up to its rhetoric. By "kneeling," some players no doubt feel they are acknowledging the hypocrisies of America — and the language of its anthem, the proverbial land of the incompletely free. They are calling on the country they love to do better.

What does this mean for our community at Middlebury? Protest is patriotism in its purest form; holding America to the high standards of its lofty ideals and sacrificing to improve it. We cannot condone flippant critiques of American systems lightly. But we can applaud and elevate critiques of American systems that are serious, brave and crucial.

Protest is pro-American and fundamentally American, since the Boston Tea Party and the country's founding. Challenging one's government, especially in oppressive circumstances, has always been a core American value, as evidenced by the Declaration of Independence itself: "When a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security."

We can recognize that to protest American institutions — whether that means standing up to a militarized police force or kneeling, on one of the most visible stages in sports and in television, in solidarity — is not to be "anti-American." Indeed, the prerogative to fight for a more equitable union — challenging those with power in the process — is written into the very backbone of our nation.

We are taught at Middlebury to think critically about the institutions around us. But we shouldn't stop at the armchair critique; we should take the lessons of protesters like Colin Kaepernick seriously, and fight for an America that does live up to the rhetoric upon which it was founded. Whether you choose to kneel or stand for the national anthem, if you play in or attend any of the Nescac events ahead, we encourage you to take the issue seriously.

Give it the time and attention it deserves. Use the opportunity to break the Middlebury bubble and talk about what it means to be an American today — in the era of Trump — outside of the narrow context of our idyllic Vermont landscape. Our nation is in a moment of flux, and Middlebury — despite the privileged bubble it inhabits — is not immune to that.

Remember, you can be proud of an imperfect nation. And, sometimes, the best way to show love for that nation is to challenge its imperfections, boldly and unapologetically.

Finding Common Ground on Economic Policy in the Era of Trump

By JOHN H. SUNUNU

Editor's Note: Governor John Sununu and Congressman Barney Frank will be in conversation in an event entitled "Finding Common Ground For Economic Progess In The Trump Era," on Wednesday, Oct. 11 from 4:30 – 6 p.m. in Wilson Hall. They submitted these op-eds to The Campus as a prelude to the event.

Finding common ground on economic policy during the Trump era will be no easier, nor more difficult, than it was when George W. Bush was president or when Barack Obama was president.

The last time a truly significant bipartisan economic package made its way into law was in 1991 when George H. W. Bush worked with the Congress in which the Democrats held a 260–175 majority in the house and a 55–45 majority in the Senate. In spite of those numbers, President Bush was able to negotiate with the Democratic leadership to produce a package of spending cuts and tax changes that — regardless of a few serious bumps in the road to the passage of the legislation — produced nearly a decade of surpluses, growth and economic prosperity.

Unfortunately, his success, in a way, made it even more difficult to achieve a similar success today because that President Bush paid a huge political price in being defeated for reelection, primarily as a result of a backlash from voters angry that he had accepted taxes in the package. That political message has prevented real progress or real bipartisan economic policy from being enacted by recent administrations.

Creating bipartisan consensus on major issues is always difficult. It is difficult because our constitutional government was designed to make it difficult. We used to call it "checks and balances," not gridlock. The legislative process is not easy and becomes an almost insurmountable challenge when the American public is deeply divided on policy and issues. Today those divisions are very significant.

Without meaningful and rational public debate on the major issues, including the economic issues, there is no impetus for Congress to seek common ground. Unfortunately, it has become fashionable around the country to stifle debate rather than promote debate. Traditional venues for such exchanges, such as college campuses are embracing protocols that discourage rather than promote discourse. The country is the poorer as a result of this trend.

Common ground on difficult issues must start with us — the public. We need to be willing to debate the equity of tax policy and distribution of tax burdens. We need to debate the consequences as well as the benefits of policies of redistribution. We need to compare the benefits and the impacts of economic stimulus programs. Until there is at least a hint of common ground on these issues within the grassroots of America, it will continue to be almost impossible for our representatives in Washington to find common ground.

Congress and President Trump are engaging on the issue of Tax Reform. Maybe the effort here at Middlebury College can serve as an example to promote the constructive discourse needed to catalyze a good and constructive piece of tax legislation.

Mr. Sununu served as the 75th governor of New Hampshire from 1983 to 1989. From 1989 to 1991, he served as chief of staff to President George H. W. Bush. Mr. Sununu is a Republican.

The content written within the Opinions pages may cause emotional distress. Please exercise discretion. The Opinions pages of The Middlebury Campus provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, The Campus reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editors, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's web site at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Sunday. The Campus reserves the right to edit all submissions.

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Introducing: 'Sharp Left'

By TEVAN GOLDBERG
Columnist

If you were conscious and used the internet between mid-2015 and the end of 2016, you might have noticed the presence of a particularly dank meme (well, several, let's be real) in the form of a guy who probably hadn't heard the term until it was applied to him.

I am, of course, referring to the unlikely political fortunes of the junior senator from Vermont, the brusquely-spoken old guy who for a brief moment somehow turned the majority of our supposedly egocentric millennial generation into enthusiastic critics of late-stage capitalism.

The near-simultaneous surges in support of leftist politicians like Jeremy Corbyn in the U.K., Jean-Luc Mélenchon in France or the Podemos party in Spain further demonstrate that socialism is no longer a dirty word in electoral politics. In fact, it may ultimately be the only long-term alternative to the current wave of authoritarian populism currently sweeping the developed world.

Socialism is, however, very much a dirty word in most media outlets, if it's even mentioned at all. Journalism that is totally configured for ad revenue and profit generation is journalism that will censor ideas hostile to its owners/shareholders. (It's simple business sense.)

But unlike the disappointing real world, our mainstream newspaper will apparently publish incendiary left-wing diatribes that I imagine the editors of The Wall Street Journal would only see as fit to light their $500 cigars with (or whatever cartoonishly malevolent banker types do these days — 24 karat vapes, perhaps?).

This is why I'm proud to introduce Sharp Left, a bi-weekly series of my very own refreshing and exceedingly pithy hot takes on the accumulation of crises that the tabloid-esque dishrags of our decadent political culture refuse to acknowledge.

If this thought makes you uneasy, rest assured that this column will *not* feature articles like: "Seven Ways Bernie Can STILL Win, So Take That Hillary," "Lenin Was Right All Along, but Mao was Righter," or a reprinting of my 9th grade book report on the Communist Manifesto. (I got an A-.)

Instead, I'm interested in discussing the multitude of heterodox thoughts, actions and developments that I see as broadly comprising a new leftist political program, one founded on radical democracy, nonviolence and solidarity, and opposed to the deeply interconnected damages that continued faith in modern capitalism rains down everyday on our environment and billions of marginalized people.

More provocatively, I want to critically examine Middlebury's role as an institution deeply situated within the prevailing discourse of neoliberal capitalism. Seeing as our school now bills itself as an outspoken proponent of free speech, it hopefully won't mind me attempting to expose contradictions between their lovely stated goals and less rosy ideological realities, right?

At this point, I'm sure I've whet your appetite for the undergraduate-written socialist polemics you never knew you needed — unless you're reading The Campus for the new conservative column, in which case you probably haven't gotten this far anyway. Regardless, please grab a copy in two weeks to see if I can live up to my own hype, unlike, well, socialism (until now!).

An Open Letter to Obama on Trade

By BARNEY FRANK

This article was published in the Boston Globe during the debate on the proposed Trans-Pacific Partnership trade deal being pushed by then President Obama. While that deal has been abandoned, the issues discussed in his essay remain central to the ongoing debate on economic policy. Mr. Frank submitted this essay to The Campus for publication.

Dear Mr. President:

I understand your concerns that many who support your domestic agenda disagree with you on the question of trade. Here's why. Because we agree with you that increasing the concentration of wealth causes serious economic and social problems, we are against increased foreign trade without adopting measures that will diminish excessive inequality.

Some argue that these issues should be treated separately. But they are inextricably linked, economically and politically. Going ahead on trade expansion while making no progress on reducing the income gap not only misses an opportunity to address the problem, but exacerbates it.

First, the economics. It is broadly acknowledged that trading patterns have contributed to the widening income gap. Few entities have been more vigorous in support of free trade than The Economist, and even it concedes that the view that "imports from low-cost countries . . . will hurt American workers . . . is not a foolish worry," and that "trade has probably . . . held down blue-collar wages in rich countries." The Economist does argue that this happens even without treaties.

But since the purpose of the Trans-Pacific Partnership is to increase trade, one of its effects will undeniably be increased inequality. It is logically inconsistent to claim that fast-track authority will be a significant accomplishment while simultaneously dismissing the argument that it needs policies to counter its negative impact on economic fairness.

Nor is this a problem that is solved by the Trade Adjustment Assistance provision in the bill that offers compensation to workers who can show a direct link between trade and the loss of their jobs. The depressing effect of trade on the wages of tens of millions of workers goes far beyond what can be fixed by direct aid to the much smaller number who will be able to meet the strict causality required by that program.

Mr. President, you have advocated policies that promise to achieve a better sharing of our increased wealth. This brings me to the political linkage. Frustratingly, to many of us who support that agenda, it is being blocked by those who are siding with you on the trade bill — and virtually nothing else you support. For many in the business community who resist an increase in the minimum wage, seek to destroy unions, oppose changes to retard corporate maneuvers that facilitate the avoidance of American taxes, work to disempower the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau while re-deregulating derivatives and otherwise protect the economic status quo, trade expansion is the number one priority. We do not think they should be able to achieve this without agreeing in turn to some of our own priorities.

In Congress, I was disinclined to help people who were killing legislation important to my values without some discussion of mutuality. But insisting that trade promotion be part of a package that includes many of your own proposals to diminish inequality is not simply a request for a quid pro quo. In this case the quid has both positive and negative effects, and the quo seeks to offset the latter.

It also demonstrates that fairness is an integral element of economic policy, and that even as we take steps to increase national wealth, we will pay attention to how it is shared.

Those of us who continue to be your proud supporters want to help you make this a reality. That is why we cannot support a stand-alone trade bill.

Mr. Frank served as a U.S. congressman from Massachusetts for 32 years. During his tenure he served as the chairman of the House Financial Services committee, where he co-authored the Dodd–Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act in the wake of the 2008 financial crisis. He is a Democrat.

WRITE RIGHT

On Incentivizing Violence

By JUSTIN ERNSTING
Contributing Columnist

As reported on the front page of last week's Campus, the administration is changing its policy regarding guest speakers in the wake of the Charles Murray incident. Under the new policy, events or speakers may be cancelled if the event is "likely to be the target of threats or violence." Policies that stifle discussion and the diversity of thought on campus should always be scrutinized, but this one is particularly outrageous because that it incentivizes violence.

The new policy empowers those who are willing to threaten violence to censor discourse on campus and deny those who wish to address our community their right to speak upon invitation. this new rule creates a troubling incentive for students to threaten violence in order to cancel speaking events that represent ideas opposed to their own. It encourages those who are willing to use violence, or even the threat of violence, as a political weapon to censor thought — an idea that should sicken any curious liberal arts student.

As a principled community, we cannot let what I believe to be an insurgent faction take control of campus discussion, allowing those who are most extreme to dictate what can and cannot be said on campus. Uncomfortable topics still require discussion, because discomfort creates opportunities for growth.

This policy will also perpetuate liberal bias at Middlebury, deterring conservative lecturers from attempting to speak on campus, for fear the administration may cancel their visit. If I was a speaker, even on an apolitical or non-controversial issue, I would have reservations about speaking at an institution of higher learning so unwilling to listen to ideas beyond its coastal bubble of wealthy liberal thought.

This policy would have allowed for a group of students to protested Edward Snowden's invitation to speak last year on the grounds that he is a fugitive from justice in the United States and potentially faces federal charges under the Espionage Act. Banning Edward Snowden would have been a mistake, and prevented his thought provoking address last year, which allowed for an important discussion around campus on the ideas of tyranny, personal liberty, and the intrusion of the intelligence community into civilian's personal information.

Colleges around the country are rescinding invitations at an increasing rate. Middlebury should not be at the forefront of the movement to censor discussion on campus and eliminate controversial thoughts. Instead, the college should focus on how it can better protect, accommodate and appeal to speakers whose ideas challenge our own to provide for a more robust discussion of ideas on campus.

NOTES FROM THE DESK

Clarifying Our Byline Policy

By WILL DIGRAVIO

In last week's issue of this paper, we published an op-ed entitled, "Faculty Support Wrongly Accused Student." As the byline indicated, that piece was written and submitted by "Middlebury Faculty for an Inclusive Community," a coalition of faculty members that formed in the wake of the Charles Murray protests.

Several of our readers have asked why we did not include the names of the aforementioned faculty members in the body or byline of their op-ed. Allow me to explain.

In the weeks and months following the Murray protests, this paper received several op-ed submissions that contained hundreds of coauthors and signatories. Due to spatial limitations, we made the decision to stop printing long lists of names. Instead, we decided to include a URL at the end of every submission that directed readers to an online list of authors and signatories.

At the end of last week's op-ed by the aforementioned faculty members, a URL was provided. However, it was not explicitly stated that the URL led to a list of names. For this confusion, we apologize. In future op-eds, this will be made more explicit.

If any readers have questions, comments, or concerns about this policy, please feel free to contact me at wdigravio@middlebury.edu.

Will DiGravio is the managing editor of this paper.

NOTES FROM THE DESK

Flags in the Wind

By DOMINICK TANOH

As a Chicago Bears fan, I've always found football season a source wasted hope and flat out disappointment.

A blowout 21-point loss to the Green Bay Packers seemed like another fitting end for an aggressively mediocre team. The ending of the game saddened me, but it was the beginning that carried the most tension many people tuning in across the country.

As the national anthem played, a few players chose to take the knee in protest of police brutality and racism in the United States. Behind them, members of both team and some fans in the stands linked arms in solidarity and support of their right to protest. All of this comes in direct reaction to the fattest thumbs on Twitter demanding that NFL owners "fire any son of a bitch who disrespects our flag."

How is it that a piece of cloth can send America's favorite sport ripping at its own throat? How is it that the act of sitting or kneeling before that piece of cloth can drive parts of this country to their feet in indignation?

It is because, as we all know, this issue is not one of respect for symbols. No one would bother protesting a bundle of stitches. It is the ideas and history swaddled in that flag that drive us to protest and conflict — the ideals of fair play, equity and liberty, nestled right next to a history of slavery, inequality and hatred.

In that flag, we see our America and the rancor surrounding protests before that flag has become a proxy for a far more consequential question: How do we truly perceive this country? Do we stand in respect for what this country claims to represent, or do we kneel in mourning for the death and the destruction this country has perpetuated (and continues to perpetuate) both within its borders and abroad? Can any answer offer an acceptable middle ground?

No one can answer these questions for anyone but his or herself. The truth is, the United States is so ideologically diverse that simply seeing the flag is as likely to remind one of the loving patriotism shown after terror attacks as it is to remind us of the caskets carrying young men sent to Iraqi deserts to secure cheap oil.

Viewed like this, the debate over the flag is not so much of irrational shouting match as a national contemplation of our identity. The winds of change are sweeping across our nation and the flag twists in the sky as another symbol of the tension that change carries with it.

Response to 'Germany's Racist Wake-Up Call'

By JANNIS BUSCHKY

As the AfD (Alternative für Deutschland) shattered the traditional political landscape by coming in as the third strongest party with 13 percent of the vote, last week's German election continues to unsettle Germans and foreigners who fear for the tolerance and inclusivity that has characterized the political climate in the last decade.

The feeling of losing these ideals prompts some voters to abandon their composure, including the author of "Germany's Racist Wake-Up Call," which appeared in last week's edition of The Campus. When calmness and clarity give way to frustration and anger, they are channeled into rants and polarization, merely galvanizing support for far-right parties.

To put the result in perspective, the biggest takeaway is that 87 percent of those who voted refused to cast their vote for the AfD. 87 percent distanced themselves from a party which shows no restraint in displaying its parallels to nationalistic ideology. Considering the anticipated surge of far-right parties, the moderate gain of the AfD reaffirms that most people believe in the importance of tolerance, and more importantly, the incompetence of far-right thinking in navigating times of moral complexity.

Taking 13 percent of voters to represent a whole society constitutes the same generalizing and fallacious thinking that far-right parties use to attract voters who long for simple solutions to complicated problems. It draws on the same strategies used by the extremists whom they so fervently despise: vague appeals to emotion drown out any flashes of constructive criticism. Yet they win an audience in similarly close-minded circles of the political left.

Far-right parties feed off the image of the political bad boy who stands up to the establishment. Instead of angrily writing about the ignorance of AfD voters, which only consolidates the image of the AfD as rebels, Germans need to calmly expose the flaws in their thinking. In particular, directing attention to their crude ideas on tax policy and education would go a long way in convincing voters of the inadequacy of the AfD as a leading political force.

Of course there is a reason for articles such as the one which appeared last week. It is easy to call out others for apparently racist sentiments and ask them to renegotiate their understanding of racism. It is a way of soothing one's troubled conscience as part of the society we criticize so ardently, but it does little to provide a meaningful basis for discussion.

Political beliefs have taken on a more important role as an identity marker. Discussing politics today is intricately personal. Attacking someone's person will not open them up for a sober discussion but only corner them and solidify their beliefs.

Inviting Germans to reconsider the meaning of racism shows this exact lack of understanding of the underlying problems that materialize in what we observe as racist practices. What appears racist goes much deeper.

While a large number of non-voters began voting for the AfD to protest Angela Merkel's refugee policy, many voters came from the traditionally center parties SPD and CDU/CSU. They voted for the AfD as a sign of disappointment in the politics of the established parties, not because they support the AfD's racist ideology. Rather than accusing Germans of bigotry, xenophobia and racism, we have to soberly investigate what prompted voters to vote for the AfD in protest, and expose all the ways in which the AfD proves inadequate in fulfilling its promises.

Controversy and insults accomplish nothing. Without them, the AfD lacks the political substance to retain their voters.

Student Reflects on Survivng Sexual Assault

By DAVID VARGAS

Those who have gotten to meet me probably know that I am a 21-year-old freshman, that I took part in two gap years before coming to Middlebury, and that I am running for first year senator. I noted throughout the application process that during my second gap year I enrolled in a computer science course, coded, worked, pursued my passion for bicycles, worked on college applications and spent time with family.

Yet I left behind details about my life that I did not feel comfortable sharing at the time. I left out the fact that most of that year was spent dealing with the aftermath of sexual assault, both in hospital beds and at meetings for an investigation that would culminate with the impunity of my perpetrator.

After having completed a highly rewarding gap year abroad in Leon, Nicaragua, working with renewable and energy efficiency initiatives, I returned home to partake in a summer program hosted at the university I was expecting to attend. But shortly before the program's end, my life encountered the same predicament that too often affects young, college-bound men and women across the nation.

The story is all too familiar: a drunken night. A clouded mind. Unwanted touch. And finally, overwhelming confusion, anger, fear, sadness, powerlessness and even self-hatred and blame. I was unable to leave my dorm hall, eat in the dining halls or even sleep. I was forced to silently catch a train home and take a second gap year.

Fast-forwarding to my life here and now as a new Middlebury student I find myself running for first-year senate. I feel it is important to echo the words of Gregory Buckles, dean of admissions, during his convocation speech this past September: "We're not looking for perfection, nor should you get wrapped up in finding perfection here at Middlebury," he stated. "The truth is you're not going to find it."

While I do not expect Middlebury to be perfect, I do expect it to be better than what I encountered at the other college I was planning on attending (and thankfully never did). I expect it to be better than that place where I was told by an administrator to 'learn my lesson,' after painfully recounting my sexual assault. And thus far it has.

Over this past summer I contacted Sue Ritter (Title IX coordinator) asking for resources for survivors and received support. I recognize the complexity of the issues that permeate Middlebury's campus, as well as my own personal lack of sufficient knowledge needed to form a fully educated and rational opinion. But I see that the college still has a long way to go when it comes to addressing sexual assault, health, transparency and accountability.

While I would like to refrain as much as possible from engaging in the gratuitous enumeration of the several positions that make up my platform, focusing on the source of the passion that drives this campaign instead, I feel it is important to discuss ways in which the school can more seriously tackle gender-based violence.

HEALTH CARE ACCESS

To improve students' access to their healthcare needs, the school should follow in the footsteps of colleges and install vending machines providing emergency contraception (Plan B), condoms, tampons, Advil and other medical products that students may need access to when Parton Health Centre is closed. This is particularly relevant for emergency contraception which research shows is most often needed during weekends.

STUDENT ACCOUNTABILITY

One of the main policies that I would like to pursue includes the creation of a student accountability office to facilitate avenues of cooperation between students and administrators, and provide productive criticism. This office would afford students the ability to report safely, comfortably and anonymously inappropriate behaviour by administrators and staff.

To improve students' access to their healthcare needs, the school should follow in the footsteps of colleges and universities like Stanford, Pomona and UC Davis, among others, and install vending machines that provide Plan B, condoms, tampons, Advil and other medical products that students may need access to when Parton Health Centre is closed. This is particularly relevant for emergency contraception which research shows is most often needed during weekends.

Finally, but most importantly, a school that aims to seriously tackle gender-based violence should promote the following:

CLIMATE SURVEYS

Performing a campus climate survey yearly to recognize the extent of this problem. Climate surveys allow students to anonymously and candidly describe their experiences on campus and evaluate the effectiveness and access to the resources that the college makes available to them. This tool is the first step to effectively addressing gender-based violence on campus, and is championed by national organizations like Know Your IX.

DATA TRANSPARENCY

The school should maintain easily accessible statistics of gender-based violence, extending beyond the limited Annual Security and Fire Safety Report mandated by the Department of Education under Title IX, which only go back three years. Furthermore, prints of such statistics and reports should be provided to incoming first-years during orientation.

IMPROVING BYSTANDER TRAINING AND SEXUAL EDUCATION

The sexual education offered to incoming freshmen is currently very cursory and brief. A more comprehensive sex-ed programme that addresses affirmative and enthusiastic consent, safe sex and healthy relationships (among other issues) more in depth is needed. The creation of said programme needs deep collaboration between students, faculty and staff but some of the points I would like to pursue include:

No first-year or incoming freshman should be allowed to receive ID or access to dorms without completing such a training course, and orientation should include more small group discussions on the issue sexual assault.

GROUP THERAPY

Middlebury college, in partnership with the local organization WomenSafe, used to facilitate group therapy for survivors of gender-based violence. But this service was suspended due to "low-attendance." As a SGA senator, I would like to pursue the reinstallation of this resource to better serve survivors.

COMMIT TO OBAMA-ERA POLICIES

Throughout this past summer, Betsy DeVoss' Department of Education introduced significant changes to Title IX that reverse Obama era mandates — including the 2011 Dear Colleague Letter, which ordered universities to adjudicate sexual assault cases under the preponderance of the evidence standard. As a SGA senator I would urge the administration to commit to these Obama-era protections and standards, following in the footsteps of other colleges like Amherst.

EMERGENCY LIGHTS

Middlebury's campus is spread out and can be quite dark at night. There should be more blue emergency phones located around campus to promote a more safe and comfortable environment.

On Political Correctness

By ALEX BROCKELMAN

In December of last year, at a town hall in Wisconsin with MSNBC's Chris Hayes, Bernie Sanders was asked why Donald Trump had been so successful in the 2016 election. Sanders, regarded by many to be the savior of the Democratic Party (of which he is not formally a member), gave a surprising answer: "I think he said he will not be politically correct. I think he said some outrageous and painful things, but I think people are tired of the same old politically correct rhetoric."

Pushed on the definition of "politically correct," Sanders continued: "It means you have a set of talking points which have been poll-tested and focus-group-tested and that's what you say rather than what's really going on. And often, what you are not allowed to say are things which offend very powerful people."

Implicit in Sanders' answer, whether he meant it or not, is an endorsement of Trumpism. If political correctness is calculated and disingenuous, then those who condemn political correctness are saying things that, somewhere deep inside, we all believe to be true but are afraid to say.

Donald Trump isn't afraid to call it how we all apparently see it: most Mexican immigrants are rapists and criminals. In this world, all men think about sexually assaulting women, only the courageous say it out loud. This framework renders the claims of one side to be objective realities, while the claims of the "politically correct" side, mere political calculations.

The implications and irony of Sanders' definition of political correctness might have been lost on him, but they cannot be lost on us. If political correctness means constructing a national dialogue (or simply lying) to serve one's political goals, then Donald Trump is the most politically correct person in America.

Further still, the party which yielded a record number of votes for him, which failed to repeal or replace the Affordable Care Act after spending seven years in belligerent protest to it (because it polled well), and which has stoked identitarian divides for decades to build a constituency around otherwise unpopular ideas, is the party of political correctness.

The term political correctness, as we use it today, is a rhetorical trick. It is a tool designed to undermine the foundation of legitimate political debate, particularly those debates which center on issues of social justice and identity. It does so by implying, through the qualification of the word correct with an adverb, that the positions of those who are "politically correct" are not just politically motivated, and thus inauthentic, but also incorrect at their core. As such, politics ceases to be a debate or dialogue at all; instead it becomes a battle between those who seek to pervert society to serve their personal designs and those who wish to defend it.

The legacy of this rhetorical trick, which first surfaced in the early 1990s and experienced a resurgence after the 2012 election, is a political dialogue that is significantly less honest, less connected and less intelligent. The specter of political correctness, often represented by "fragile" college students and cosmopolitan elites, permeates nearly every aspect of modern American politics.

When students at Middlebury protested Charles Murray, an opportunity for a profound civil debate about discourse and democracy instead became a national lecture on the dangers of political correctness in which many faculty, administrators and journalists severely misrepresented the positions of students.

"The purpose of college is not to make faculty or students comfortable in their opinions and prejudices" postulated over 100 Middlebury College professors in the Wall Street Journal, countering a straw man argument that not one of their students ever made. Frank Bruni of the New York Times worried out loud that our colleges are not "preparing [students] for constructive engagement in a society that won't echo their convictions the way their campuses do." Nevermind that the students had just finished planning a protest based on a complex, nuanced and controversial premise, with which he and his colleagues failed to engage in any meaningful way.

The toxic assumptions that undergird political correctness were in full effect at Middlebury after Murray's visit, even when political correctness itself was not directly invoked. The argument that students advanced through protest was fundamentally intellectual and democratic. Why should our school academically consider whether impoverished communities (particularly those of color) are pathologically disposed to poverty?

Charles Murray's body of work is ahistorical, poorly sourced and thoroughly discredited. Engagement with it has made the world an uglier place in concrete, measurable ways. This claim was almost systematically ignored. Instead, many of the adults in the room decided to focus on a symbolic defense of free speech, an objective and unoffensive principle which was never under attack, and uncritical stereotypes of students as fragile or in need of ideological conformity.

Perhaps their true "political" position, that such a hypothesis deserves to be considered in an academic community, would not have garnered such sweeping public support.

When the Democratic Party failed at every level in the 2016 election, a similar logic was applied to national politics. A host of noteworthy politicians (Obama, Sanders) and journalists (Lilla, Chait, Bruni) rushed to blame a reliance on "identity politics" for Trump's rise and to declare an end to "identity liberalism."

The underlying assumption, that the focus on the needs of historically underrepresented and oppressed groups was a strategy for winning rather than a values system rooted in equity and justice, must have thrilled the Steve Bannons of the world. It also signaled the degree to which Democrats have internalized the doctrine of political correctness, to their own disadvantage.

The idea of political correctness is as corrosive as it is inaccurate. It creates and enforces a power structure in which entire communities are silenced, their perspectives rendered inauthentic and invalid. Meanwhile, those who decry political correctness tend to be those with the loudest voices in the room, or with the least courage of their own convictions.

So, for those of you who take to the pages of this or a different paper, to blogs or journals, to private conversations or public forums, and complain about a culture of political correctness: you might not be a racist, a sexist or a bigot, but you are certainly carrying their water.

College Hosts 'What Can Feminism Speak To?' Dialogue

By MAYA LONDON-SOUTHERN
Contributing Writer

Students and faculty gathered to listen to the dialogue between Katha Pollitt and Janell Hobson in an event titled "What Can Feminism Speak To?" in Wilson Hall on Wednesday, Sept. 27. The lecture presented the topic of intersectional feminism and the realm of womanhood throughout all aspects of life.

The event, which included a lunch with Pollitt and several students the following day, was sponsored by the president's office, the feminist studies department and the Chellis House.

Pollitt is a feminist critic and writer of the column "Subject to Debate" for The Nation. Hobson is an associate professor of sexuality at the University of Albany, State University of New York. The talk was hosted and moderated by Middlebury professor Laurie Essig. Throughout the talk, the women touched on intersectional feminism, the 2016 election and feminist celebrities.

Pollitt began the dialogue talking about how essentially everything affects women because women exist in every sphere of life. She mentioned that when she asked women what their preoccupations were, they gave answers such as race, health care, cyber security, Silicon Valley, LGBTQ rights, trans issues and reproductive justice.

On reproductive justice specifically, Pollitt stressed that choice is important, but not enough. She said that women need resources in order to raise children, and that therefore reproductive rights extend beyond pregnancy into motherhood.

"This aspect is not mentioned enough," Pollitt said, adding that class is often a factor. "Choice is hampered if a woman is poor." She also pointed out the inherent imbalance in who is responsible for family planning. "Why is it women's jobs to fix everything?" she said. "I'm still waiting for that big march where men march for birth control for men."

Hobson agreed with Pollitt that most aspects of life have a gender component. However, she added that feminism should speak to the most marginalized, not just the mainstream. Feminism has traditionally focused on white, middle-class, straight women, making it an exclusive, and therefore hypocritical, advocacy for equality. Hobson added that this focus on white women has created a false competition between white women and men of color, which leaves women of color entirely out of the picture.

"If we start with women at the bottom, think of how all other women are implicated," Hobson said. "When black women get free, every woman gets free."

Hobson also talked about women and sexism in politics, touching on the fact that Huma Abedin, vice chair of Clinton's 2016 campaign, blamed herself for Clinton's loss because of a sexting scandal involving her now ex-husband, Anthony Wiener. Hobson related this incident to the public's reaction to the Bill Clinton scandal, for which Hillary was criticized throughout her campaign, and for which Hillary is often still blamed.

Pollitt also expressed the importance of supporting Hillary in the election's aftermath while the public, including President Trump, continues to attack her.

"I don't even look at the question 'if Hillary were a man would she have won?'" Pollitt said. Instead, she says she asks, "If Trump were a woman would he have won? If Trump were a black man would he have gotten anywhere? If Trump were anything but a white man?"

This liberal sentiment won cheers and applause from the audience. But one student, who identified as a woman and a Democrat, expressed a concern that Republican women were excluded from feminism in the current political climate that labels Trump supporters as sexist and misogynist.

"You have to be able to overlook a lot of what Donald Trump said about women in order to vote for him," Pollitt said in response.

Commenting on the 53 percent of white women voters who voted for Trump, Hobson also discussed the distrust many women of color had of Hillary. "I need to think of what it means to distrust the white woman," she said. "When we talk about power and privilege, we don't expect Trump to support [women of color], but we don't expect white women to, either."

The two speakers also addressed pornography, sexism related to technology and celebrity feminism, speaking briefly of celebrities who shun feminism and those who embrace it. Hobson discussed Beyoncé, about whom she wrote a cover story about for Ms. Magazine in 2013. Hobson described her impression of Beyoncé's feminism to be an evolution.

"When I wrote that piece, I was still unclear about how feminist she was," she said. "But I didn't have to defend her because six months later she released flawless."

Students who attended to talk enjoyed the different perspectives on stage. "I liked that, despite their differing viewpoints on some issues, Janell and Katha were able to agree on the key ideals of feminism and why it's so necessary," said Taite Shomo '20.5, who attended both the talk and lunch. "I think that it's important given the current political climate to be talking about feminism and especially intersectional feminism, and that Janell Hobson's point about helping out the most marginalized people really spoke to that."

President Laurie L. Patton made a similar point in a school-wide email sent before the event.

"Katha Pollitt and Janell Hobson are leading feminist voices of their generations, but also write from different points of view," Patton wrote.

The Office of the President will be sponsoring more critical conversations throughout the year in the hope of opening up discussion to various academic perspectives.

CHELLIS HOUSE
Janell Hobson discussed intersectional feminism at the panel.

CHELLIS HOUSE
Katha Pollitt, a columnist at The Nation, also spoke at the event.

AFC Hosts Dinner in Honor of Hispanic Heritage Month

By HAOYANG YU
Contributing Writer

Students organized the first National Hispanic Heritage Month community dinner in Carr Hall on Sept. 30. This event, funded by the Anderson Freeman Center (AFC), welcomed a total of more than 70 participants last Saturday night.

Although the event did not officially start until 6 p.m., many students came early to help out, including Noel Hermilio Aispuro '18.

"I came here because I want to help cook," Aispuro said as he participated in the preparation of flautas, one of the main dishes for the dinner.

Hermilio Aispuro said that cooking food from specific cultures has a much deeper meaning. He said authentic Latin American food makes Hispanic students at Middlebury feel more at home and provides an opportunity to savor the taste of childhood.

He said he looked forward to students from non-Hispanic backgrounds having the chance to engage in intercultural communications to learn more about Latin American food and culture.

The dinner began with a brief introduction about the National Hispanic Heritage Month and organizers spoke about the goals of the event. Then, a variety of food was served and music played.

Besides offering a space for Hispanic students to interact, the community supper also attracted a fair number of students with non-Hispanic backgrounds. Vee Duong '19, cited friendship and curiosities about Hispanic culture as main factors for her participation in the event.

"A lot of my friends [organized] this event, so I [came] to support them and to learn more the Hispanic culture," Duong said. Duong also thinks that the community dinner is effective in establishing a sense of connection "I learned that the Hispanic community on campus is really vibrant, and they are really nice and warm," she said.

Katherine Morillo '18 is the coordinator for Middlebury Intercultural Leaders Coalition (MILC). This year is Morillo's third working at the AFC, and she's excited to bring about changes and start new cultural traditions. She explained that although Saturday's event was the first Hispanic Heritage community dinner, the AFC hosted community dinners last year as well.

"Our community supper started last year...to bring the AFC community together, and to have students come to a space where they feel welcome and feel at home and don't have to have food at the dining hall," Morillo said. "This year we [decided] to do more about heritage months. Having the Hispanic Heritage community supper is just to do something different and to have different students involved."

"For me it's always about, like, having people talk and learn new things," she said. "It's not only about [showing] up and [eating]. It's also about the students who worked with me in the kitchen been here for hours."

Morillo also said some of the student who volunteer to help with preparation are even from outside the group, which helps foster a community environment.

"I think that's a big part of what creates a community here, because those students don't have to do that... they have assignments to do, but they still want to make this (the community dinner) happen," she said.

Morillo added that there will be three AFC cultural community dinners every semester, alongside other cultural events throughout campus. For example, a Hispanic Heritage Month themed barbecue featuring a Dominican hip-hop duo performance already took place in early September.

"We're definitely trying to open up to different types of things and hopefully in the future we can get different types of events going," Morillo said.

SILVIA CANTU BAUTISTA
Students organized a dinner event in the Anderson Freeman Center in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month.

Ceramics Studio Welcomes Students to Come Create

BY DAVID GOSSENS
Contributing Writer

Students and faculty gathered to The ceramics studio can be easily missed if you do not know what you're looking for. Located along Adirondack View Road, it is the tan house with the green garage door, somewhat hidden by a bush. An old concrete staircase leads up to the front door, where the hours of the ceramics studio are written in neat penciled handwriting. Inside, rows of glazed pottery immediately greet you on shelves facing the door. To the right is a room for mashing clay with your hands, to the left are the wheels. Nine of them sit in a row by the window, well-used and well-loved, and opposite them on the table lies a great bag of dark, wet clay.

"We really don't discourage people from making what they want to make," says Omar Valencia '19, president of the ceramics club, as he places a mug onto one of the tables with an inscription that reads "I hate you Dad." He pulls another object off one of the many shelves in the studio and holds it up in the light – a beautifully crafted pipe. It is one of the studio's more interesting pieces, and demonstrates there is room for all kinds of creativity in the space.

Coming to the studio is a user-defined experience. You can come in and play with clay for an hour, just to feel it in your hands, or you can commit to coming in every week and slowly create an advanced work of art. There is plenty of clay for everyone to use, courtesy of the college. However, Valencia says that he does not want the studio to be filled with objects no one ever picks up. Instead, he would like people to come in and create works of art they are proud of and then take home. Many pieces have been forgotten – along with the myriad bowls and mugs that adorn the walls of the studio, a rose made of clay petals waits for its owner silently in the corner.

Ceramics is a rewarding but challenging art. If you visit the studio, Valencia says, it is unlikely you will create anything on the first day. You will struggle to master the basic techniques on the wheel and you may mess up this or that – with clay, if one thing goes wrong the entire piece can fall apart. The second day you will begin to shape something, and even then, you may mess up and have to start the entire project over. This is why so many stick to creating bowls. Bowls are single blocks of clay, unlike pots or other pieces that require multiple parts, and can be made quickly with minimal risk.

> ***"We really don't discourage people from making what they want to make."***
> OMAR VALENCIA '19
> PRESIDENT OF
> CERAMICS CLUB

Thankfully, there are monitors during the studio's hours that help visitors out with whatever they are trying to make. Omar is one of these monitors, and he begins instructing instinctively as I watch him beat a ball of clay. He describes centering and keeping everything uniform as the clay spins on the wall, poking a hole to form a bowl, and then "lifting the clay," which consists of actually throwing the piece on the wheel.

"So it's spinning, right? And it's just this, like, amorphous blob with a hole in the middle," Valencia says. "First I'm going to have to pull back, and make the hole wider, and then from there I'm going to have to lift up so it's just this cylinder."

Valencia goes on, step after step. Each step, there is potential for a mistake to be made that would ruin the whole thing.

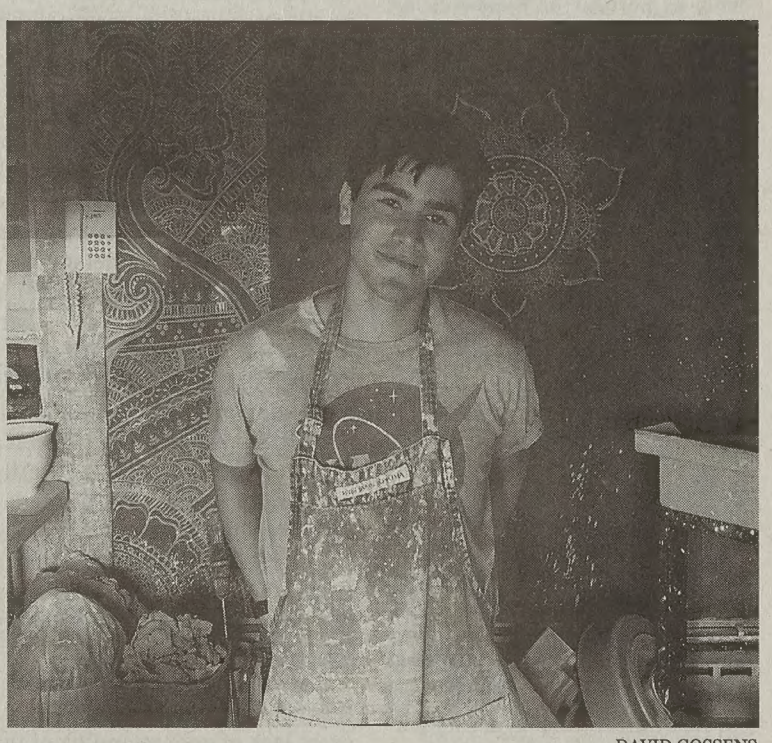
"Often times people will come into the studio once and not make anything and be discouraged," he says. "What my ceramics teach used to say was that the first few times you're throwing on the wheel are just the periods of suffering. Where it's just ... sometimes as hard as you try, it's just not going to work out. But for whatever reason, it you stick with it, there's just this one day where it clicks. And you actually make something."

Coming to the ceramics studio is an experience that everyone at the college should try. Ceramics does not have to be a serious endeavor for every visitor – it can be a stressbuster, a place to hang out with friends or go on a date. The club is also always looking for new monitors to extend the hours that it is open.

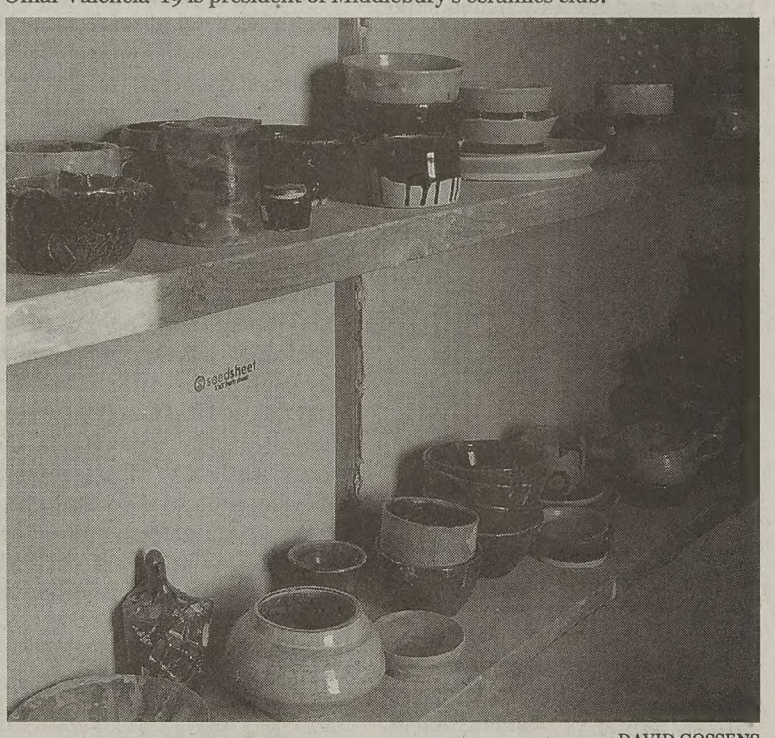
When I ask him why he loves clay making, Valencia replies thoughtfully.

"What I do is I make a craft, and it's just really fun make something with my own hands and just actually see that come into fruition," he says. Here's this random ball of clay, and with that there's so much potential to what it can become."

The studio's hours are listed on the studio door and can also be accessed via the organization's middlink page.



DAVID GOSSENS
Omar Valencia '19 is president of Middlebury's ceramics club.



DAVID GOSSENS
Studio visitors can make and take home their own creations.

Teach-in Discusses Recent Hurricanes

By ASHER LANTZ
Senior Writer

This past summer was the first time since 1893 that eight or more major hurricanes formed in a row in the Atlantic. This hurricane season was also the only season on record with three hurricanes with an Accumulated Cyclone Energy (ACE) — a scientific measure of the strength of the hurricane — over 40.

Only 26 of 424 Atlantic hurricanes since 1950 have had an ACE value above 40, making this summer anomalously active for a hurricane season. This level of activity and the devastating effects of these hurricanes have elicited many questions, many of which were addressed at the "Harvey, Irma, Maria: A Community Teach-in" event at the Franklin Environmental Center at Hillcrest on Sept. 29. The event gathered students and faculty alike to discuss these questions and the implications of this summer's flurry of hurricanes.

The moderator of the discussion, economics professor John Isham, began by asking participants to posit the questions they had in order to create a list of questions before the discussion started. Questions ranged from specifics about the correlation between climate change and hurricanes to the media's reaction to the hurricanes. The breadth of subjects touched by these questions emphasized how interdisciplinary a conversation about hurricanes should be, a need which was only reinforced throughout the conversation.

The first question discussed was the relationship between climate change and hurricanes. Environmental studies professor Molly Constanza-Robinson said the general conclusion of scientists was that "we aren't causing them, but we're intensifying them." Dan Brayton, an English and American studies professor, backed Costanza-Robinson up by making clear that behind the complicated science of hurricanes lies the simple fact that "hurricanes are all about warm water." Not only do hurricanes form over warm water, but they are also intensified by warm water. Together, the professors' responses make clear that climate change is causing a rise in sea temperatures, which allows hurricanes to intensify easier.

From there, the conversation branched into the tragic situation in Puerto Rico. Puerto Rico was hit by category four Hurricane Maria on Sept. 19, causing the entire island to lose power, cell coverage and running water. This, coupled with the destruction of buildings and roads, has caused a dire and dangerous situation for all Puerto Ricans.

One student brought up how it took the United States a full week to lift the Jones Act to allow Puerto Rico to receive aid from other countries. The Jones Act prevents Puerto Rico from trading with any country but the United States, and delineates that if a ship from any other country wants to go to Puerto Rico, it must get explicit permission from the U.S. government.

This brought up questions about the role the United States should play in aiding Puerto Rico. Professor Isham described how Puerto Ricans are subject to U.S. Federal Taxes and economic limitations like the Jones Act without the privileges of U.S. citizenship. He viewed these as important aspects of this "post-colonialist" period in history.

Professor Rebecca Gould mentioned how the U.S. government said it was difficult to access and aid Puerto Rico due to its poor infrastructure, and said the government should instead be asking itself what is actually causing that poor infrastructure. Costanza-Robinson brought up how rich Americans in hedge funds profit off loans to Puerto Rico, the process of which is throwing Puerto Rico into increasing debt. She noted how this exemplifies the power of a small group of rich Americans to control the fate of millions of people.

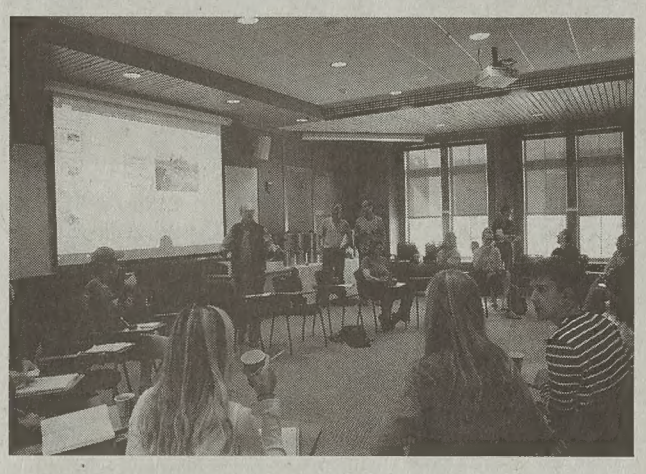
Later in the conversation, Alec Fleischer '20.5 of the Divest Middlebury movement brought up this point. He described how Middlebury is still invested in companies like these hedge funds and asked the question, "How are we different from these hedge funds if we're still invested in them?"

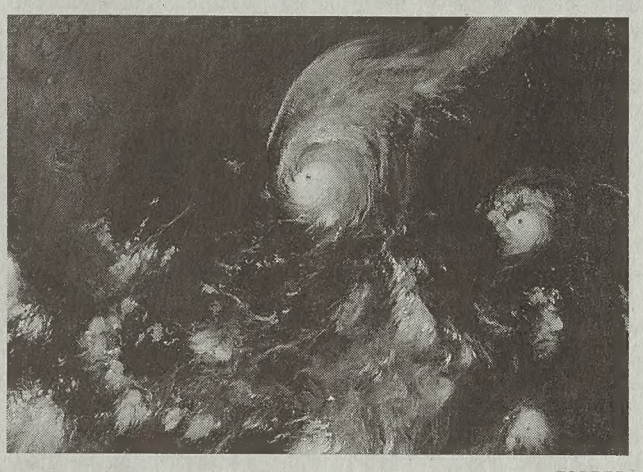
Joseph Holler, a geography professor, then passed around a paper that showed a map that was part of the Flood Insurance Study done in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. The map was blanked out by a white square with writing on it that said "Flood hazard information for this portion of the transect has be superseded by the revised interior drainage analysis performed in 2014."

Holler described how political processes redacted the actual flooding hazard information. Now companies are building and rebuilding in New Orleans as though it is safer than it was before Katrina, regardless of the fact that, in reality, it is not.

Isham concluded the discussion by asking the group, "What should we do?" One student's response was to simply elect the right people. Participants generally agreed with this as a solution, though there was some debate about how to elect the right people. Another student lamented how he felt that those who are currently in the position to be elected are not people he would want to elect. Another student brought up the need to inform voters on the issues brought up in this conversation, from climate change to the U.S. international affairs in Puerto Rico.

This conversation brought up a lot of important problems surrounding this past hurricane season, too many to address in this article alone. While not all the mentioned issues were about the hurricanes themselves, they were all directly tied to the causes and devastating effects of hurricanes. This reporter left the conversation not feeling very optimistic about the issues that were brought up, but was impressed by the intelligent and open discussion. Conversations like these and the actions that result from them are vital if we are to address these challenges we face as a college, as a nation and as humans.





FORBES

The community teach-in brought faculty and students together to ask and answer questions about the recent hurricanes (left, middle). One of the hurricanes discussed at the event, Hurricane Maria, devestated Puerto Rico (right).

Prof Researches Acid Mine Runoff

By CAROLINE JASCHKE
Contributing Writer

Lesley-Ann Giddings, a professor in the biology department, launched a new research project this August that combines her interest in extremophiles, organisms thriving in extreme environments, with a local focus on Vermont's abandoned copper mines.

Giddings describes the research as an investigation of "how seasonal changes affect microbial populations, in acid mine drainage environments in Vermont, as well as new genes that could be useful in the bioremediation of these low-pH environments."

Prior to 1846, Vermont was a major source of copper production. Vermont's three copper mines Ely, Elizabeth, and Pike Hill yielded 150 million pounds of copper. These copper deposits were formed by concentrated metal sulfides, the result of magma flowing between earth's plates.

Today, these metal sulfides have been left exposed to the elements. Water and oxygen flowing over the deposits oxidize the metal sulfides, generating sulfuric acid. This acid is then capable of dissolving other harmful metals from the surrounding rocks, contaminating the water, causing significant damage to the ecosystem, and threatening public health.

All three mines are Environmental Protection Agency designated Superfund sites, meaning the sites have been identified as national priorities for cleanup because their hazardous waste contamination poses human and environmental health risks.

For a natural products chemist such as Giddings, this sort of extreme environment also opens up a world of possibility.

"These extreme environments have strange resources available to microbes and the microbes can metabolize the resources and create new compounds that help them adapt to that environment," Giddings said.

She is interested in what important functions are present in these microbes that have allowed them to adapt to and survive within this environment.

In order to better understand these microbial functions, Giddings is conducting a comparative study by taking samples in January and July to look at "seasonal differences in the acid mine drainage microbial community, as well as the metabolic pathways that are selectively upregulated in different seasons," she explains.

The changes in temperature, conductivity, and pH produce different metabolic activities that may answer questions about how this microbial community changes and why. Analyzing these differences will have two major components. Firstly, Giddings will sequence DNA in acid mine drainage to identify seasonal changes in microbes and gene expression. Secondly, she will culture microbes to determine the molecules individual microbes are making under conditions that mimic their native environment.

The cultures will also indicate how the microbe metabolic profiles change between winter and summer months.

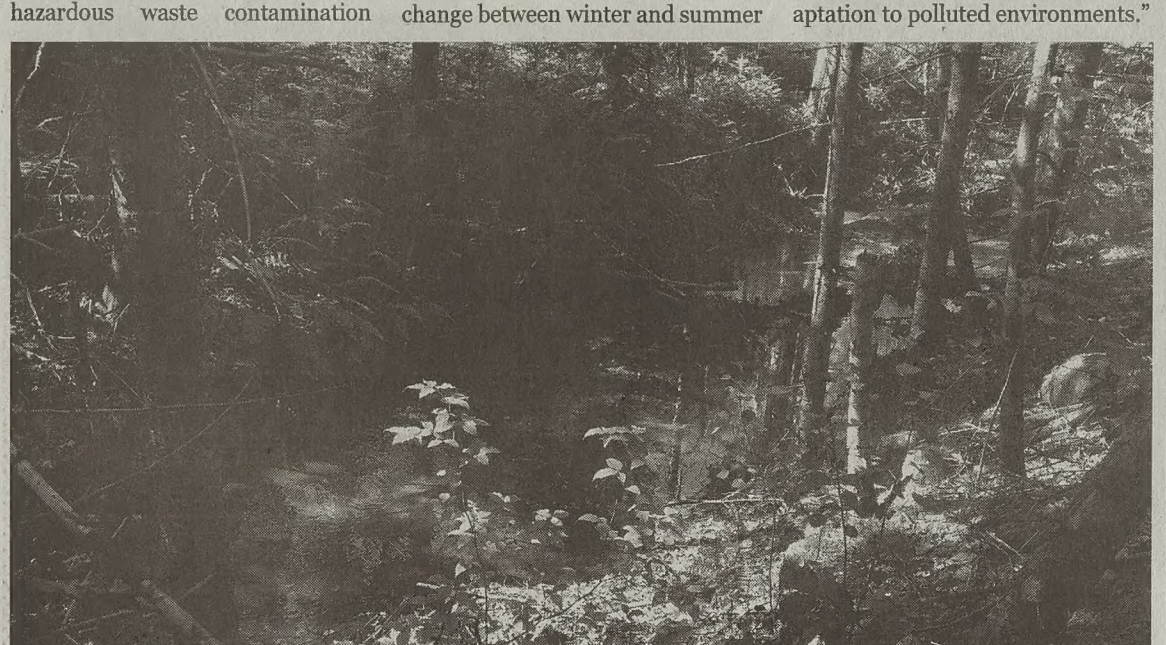
Currently, the government is tackling acid mine drainage problems by capping the exposed metal sulfides so that they cannot become oxidized and produce acid. This type of solution could cause long-term stewardship issues such as maintaining the cap and preventing trespassing. Furthermore, a 2017 Vermont Legislature testimony estimates total project costs for remediation of the Elizabeth Mine to be $11 million and total costs for the Ely Mine to be $26 million.

What is really needed is a way of filtering out these toxic metals that have polluted the streams at these mine sites. Giddings points out that the microbes present at these sites are already interacting with the metal and so she asks, "why not learn about how the microbes are interacting with the metals to see if we can find a more cost effective way of cleaning up these sites?"

Through identifying genes, Giddings hopes to answer questions such as how microbes traffic metals — Do they bind specifically to metals and sequester the metals? Have they evolved mechanisms to pump metals out of cells? Through this gene research and a better understanding of the metabolic pathways of the microbes, perhaps a more efficient solution could be created for the bioremediation of acid mine drainage sites.

Giddings' biochemical approach to a major environmental issue has a lot of exciting potential for the future.

As she articulates, "there may be a silver lining found in microbial adaptation to polluted environments."



LESLEY-ANN GIDDINGS

Giddings conducts her biochemical research on the environmental effect of copper runoff at Ely Brook.

Performing Arts Spotlight: Danish String Quartet

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

The Danish String Quartet will perform at the MCA on October 7.

The Danish String Quartet will bring their internationally-acclaimed talents to the Mahaney Center for the Arts's Robison Hall on Saturday, Oct. 7. The much-anticipated performance will begin at 8 p.m., following a pre-performance dinner in MCA Lower Lobby (tickets for which are sold separately). Concert tickets are $6 for students.

The program will feature both classical songs as well as Nordic folk tunes from the quartet, whose roots run deep. They met at summer camp when they were teenagers.

"Our friendship has allowed us to enjoy life as a string quartet quite a bit, and we believe that music thrives when musicians are happy, confident and enjoying each other's company on and off the stage," the quartet has said.

The Campus spoke to Allison Coyne Carroll, director of the Performing Arts Series, about the upcoming concert.

The Campus: Why is this event relevant to Middlebury?

Allison Coyne Carroll: The Danish String Quartet have been on my radar for quite some time as one of a handful of strong, rising-star quartets today. I've been trying for a couple of years to bring them to Middlebury, but despite planning one to two years in advance, we either could not get a date on their busy US tour schedule, or their tour fell during one of our academic break periods.

Finally, all of the stars aligned, and we're thrilled to be the first stop on the quartet's North American tour this fall. We even have the quartet in Middlebury for an extra day to teach lessons to some of the string players on campus and to squeeze in some fall foliage hiking.

While the Danish play the standard classical quartet repertoire that complements Middlebury's music history course work, their innovative programming also includes contemporary works and self-arrangements of Nordic folk music for quartet. I chose a program that includes the latter for their Middlebury performance, as it is very reminiscent of the Quebecois fiddle music prevalent here in Vermont.

They're also very down-to-earth musicians who make chamber music more approachable — just check out some of the videos on their Facebook feed — and I hope this will resonate on campus.

WomenSafe Presents 'I Rise'

By SARAH BOYLE
Senior Writer

On Sunday, Oct. 1, the Town Hall Theater hosted "I Rise," a performance fundraising-awareness event for WomenSafe in collaboration with MiddSafe and the college Department of Theater and Dance. The goal of the event was to raise money and awareness about the struggles of domestic violence within Addison County and demonstrate the work that WomenSafe does for the community. For members of WomenSafe this event was powerful because it "gave voice to survivors" of domestic abuse.

The topic of domestic abuse hits close to home for many people. Sadly, it is a common occurrence in our society that many have direct or indirect connections with its horrors. For this reason, each performance brought the audience closer to the message, allowing them to think of their own personal experiences with domestic abuse or the experiences of those dear to them.

The program started with "Behind the Wall" a performance art and dance piece that demonstrated through jagged, physical, and suffocating movements the atrocities that happen in abusive households behind closed doors. The dancers, students from the dance department, moved with pain in a way that removed themselves from the audience and from their fellow dancers, a feeling that rings true for many people who have been abused and feel alone in the world. The music rang out in the background, a poetic voice lamenting the difficulties of understanding how to help those who are being hurt in their own homes. The narrative continued to tell how police often do not want to interfere with affairs between a man and his wife, demonstrating how in an abusive situation a woman may not be perceived as an independent person but rather the property of a man. The dancers' hurried movements and sounds of suffocation left the audience feeling helpless to the pain that they were visualizing.

To inform the audience about broad qualifications and demographics of sexual violence, four MiddSafe volunteers came on to the stage to perform "Why," a performance art piece that used the dancers' bodies and relation to each other on the stage to display the statistics of who will become victims of sexual violence in their lifetime. This piece was especially harrowing because it sought to bring faces to those statistics of who will experience domestic violence.

After every statistic was read, the dancers would step out to represent within their group who would be the ones to fall victim to sexual violence. What was so moving about this piece was that after every fact was read and each girl stepped out as a representation of victims of domestic abuse, the other girls would in some way reach out to the one affected, displaying an act of female solidarity and recognition of pain.

The most personal of all the performances was "It Will Look Like a Sunset," written by Kelly Sundberg and performed by members of the theater department. Several girls came out on stage to tell the story of one abusive relationship from beginning to end, each telling different parts that ranged from past to present, interweaving the narrative of this complicated love story. This shed light onto the multidimensional aspects of abusive relationships — it not only detailed the woman hiding under the bed in fear of her husband, but also told stories of the couple emailing each other funny videos at work and laying in bed with their son between them.

The detail of their story explained how complicated it can be to leave an abusive relationship, because often there is real love between the couple. Having several performers tell the same story allowed the audience to see that this happens to many women in the world and that no one should ever feel that they are alone in their suffering.

Following was a poem that brought the audience through the various points in a woman's life where she feels sexualized or abused, starting from a young age when boys hit girls "because they like them." This piece titled "Things I (Shouldn't) Have to Tell My Daughters" written by Mary Heather Noble and read by Lindsay Pontius, details the vicious cycle of domestic abuse that stems from the relationships that men and women experience starting from youth. Each part of the poem demonstrated that violence in romantic relationships is not just a problem that occurs later in life, but one that also has its roots in childhood and teenage years.

Members of the dance department returned to the stage in "Still, I Rise," using powerful dance motions and the words of Maya Angelou to display the strength that lies in every person who experiences sexual or domestic abuse. This ended the performance with a relatively upbeat tone and left the audience hopeful that people are strong and resilient and can overcome the atrocities of domestic abuse.

College president Laurie Patton came on to the stage to present the final poem of the event, titled "To Stop the Violence Against Woman," written by Alice Walker. The poem served as a strong call to action for all women to end domestic violence, encouraging women to stand up against the abuse that has been so normalized in our society. Her inspiring demand for support and solidarity among women and men embodies the mission of WomenSafe.

The proceeds of the event went to support WomenSafe's new fundraising goal of $1.2 million to help the organization continue to fight domestic abuse in Addison County and to provide support for families who have been affected by domestic violence. Through their hotline services, support groups, community outreach and education and supervised visits for children with abusive parents, WomenSafe is working to end domestic abuse in our area.

They are in the process of converting their old offices into transitional housing for people who are leaving abusive households. Hopefully with more events like "I Rise" and donations and volunteers from our local community, WomenSafe can reach their goal of raising 1.2 million dollars to better serve and protect our community.

If you wish to donate to WomenSafe, volunteer or learn more about their programs visit http://www.womensafe.net.

SILVIA CANTU BAUTISTA

"I Rise" featured a variety of powerful performing arts pieces.

The Librarian Is In

By KATRINA SPENCER
Contributing Columnist

Literatures and cultures librarian Katrina Spencer is liaison to the Anderson Freeman Center, the Arabic department, the French department, the Gender Sexuality & Feminist Studies (GSFS Program), the Language Schools, Linguistics and the Spanish & Portuguese departments. These affiliations are reflected in her reading choices. "While I am a very slow reader, I'm a very critical reader," she says.

Pages: 63

Hugo para principantes Laerte

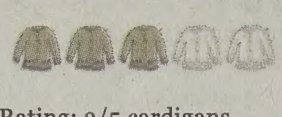
DAVIS FAMILY LIBRARY

THE WHAT

This is a collection of cartoons by one of Brazil's most famous cartoonists, known mononymously as "Laerte." The lead character of the work is Hugo, a man who, like everyone else, struggles to pay his bills, to please his partner, to accept pre-determined gender norms and, ultimately, to be himself in a society that strictly delineates acceptable behavior and is ever-changing with new technologies to which we must adapt. Hugo is an "average Joe" with a big heart and a healthy dose of consistent confusion. Published in full color, this thin volume will bring joy to lusophiles deciding to thumb its pages.

THE WHY

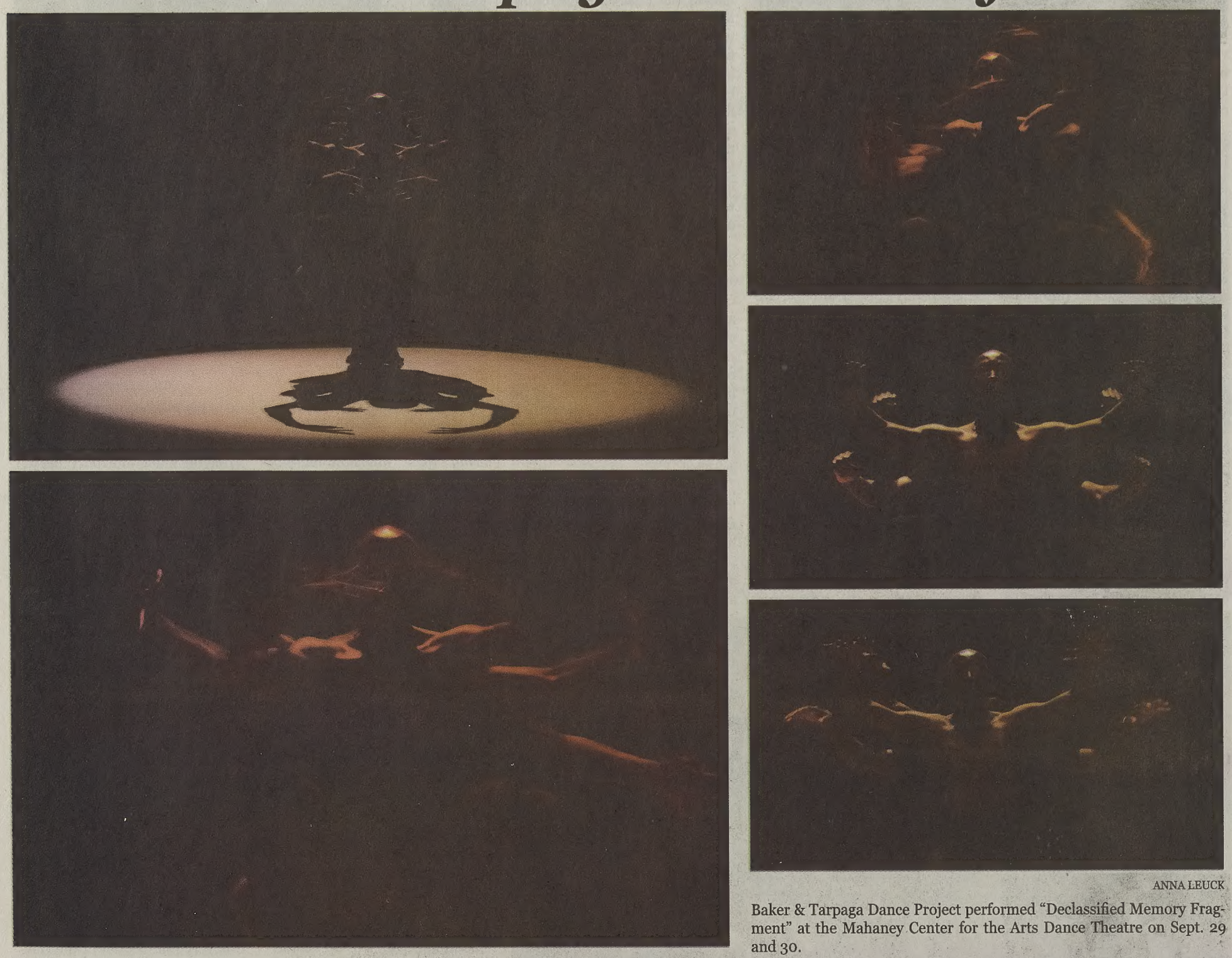
When I attended the Portuguese School in 2014, I started studying Laerte with great interest. I learned that the cartoonist is one of the most well recognized transgender people in all of Brazil. As is the case with Caitlyn Jenner, Laerte gained fame and status before transitioning and, as a public figure, ran a great risk in terms of social stigmatization, having chosen to transition publicly. Aside from creating work that is funny and clever that allows me to practice Portuguese, I admire Laerte's bravery in subverting social norms.



Rating: 3/5 cardigans

"Hugo para principantes" features curious drawings with enigmatic character but has no real plot destination.

Baker & Tarpaga Dance Project



ANNA LEUCK

Baker & Tarpaga Dance Project performed "Declassified Memory Fragment" at the Mahaney Center for the Arts Dance Theatre on Sept. 29 and 30.

DON'T MISS THIS

Stand Up for Dinosaurs

A line-up of Middlebury students will perform stand-up comedy acts. Start your weekend off right with lots of laughs and prehistoric fun. Food will be provided. Free.

10/5, Thursday, 10:30 p.m. – 12 a.m., Gampitheatre

Observatory Night

The Mittelman Observatory and Middlebury Physics will host a star-gazing night on October 6. Weather permitting, a variety of interesting stars, star clusters and nebulae will be visible through the Observatory's telescopes. Free and open to the public.

10/6, Friday, 8 – 9:30 p.m., McCardell Bicentennial Hall Observatory

"I Placed a Jar"

Edmund de Waal, ceramic artist and award-winning author of the best-selling memoir, "The Hare with Amber Eyes," discusses recent projects in Vienna, Berlin, and LA, how family stories interweave with his artistic practice, why collecting matters and why white is a difficult color. Free.

10/10, Tuesday, 4:30 p.m., MCA, Robison Concert Hall

SPORTS

Field Hockey Feeling It

Big Saturday Matchups Loom Large for the Volleyball and Field Hockey Teams Eyeing Nescac Crowns

VOLLEYBALL EXTENDS STREAK TO NINE

MICHAEL O'HARA

Field hockey goes 1–1 in toughest week on the schedule

B8

BIG MONTH BEGINS FOR GOLF

MICHAEL O'HARA

Men's golf narrowly misses cut to qualify for Nescacs in the spring, but has bright future ahead.

B2

MEN'S SOCCER FALLS AT THE FEET OF COLBY

EMMA STAPLETON

Men's soccer loses its second straight Nescac matchup.

B7

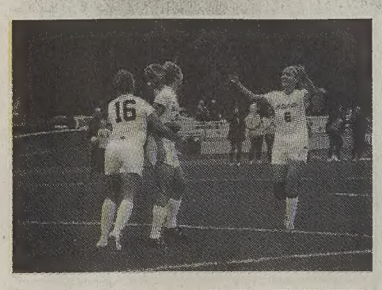
TENNIS TEAMS PLAY IN ITAS

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

The tennis teams play in their most significant tournaments of the fall season.

B8

WOMEN'S SOCCER OUT-LASTS COLBY



EMMA STAPLETON

On Eliza Van Voorhis '21's goal, Middlebury defeated Colby 1-0.

B2

EMMA STAPLETON

With the Green Mountains as a backdrop, Middlebury midfielders Marissa Baker '20 and Audrey Quirk '18 celebrate a goal in front of dumbfounded Colby defenders. The Panthers opened the second half with a three-goal onslaught that put the team up 6–0. They'll look to carry the momentum from their 6–1 win into Saturday's Tufts showdown.

Cross Country Takes Vermont Invite

By JORDAN HOWELL

The Middlebury cross country teams did quite well in their two most recent meets. The men's team was able to come in thirty-sixth place and the women's team in thirty-fifth place at the Paul Short run on Friday, Sept. 29. The highlight of last weekend, however, took place on Saturday, Sept. 30, when both teams captured first place in their respective races at the Vermont State Meet.

Kate MacCary '19 knew how big of an impact these races would have in terms of confidence, especially the Paul Short Run.

"We are very excited to be sending 10 teammates down to Pennsylvania to race in the Paul Short Invitational this weekend," MacCary said. "The Paul Short race is contested on a fast course, and we will be competing against many strong Division I programs. This race is massive and packed with fast competitors, so it represents a great opportunity for us to get a taste of what the championship meets will be like."

The men ran in a 39-team field in the gold race in the Paul Short run. At thirty-sixth place, they got a total of 915 points. The top five runners were Harrison Knowlton '19 with a time of 25:14, Miles Meijer '19 with a time of 25:21, Ascencion Aispuro '18 and Andrew Michelson '19, who both finished with a times of 25:25, and Theo Henderson '20 with a time of 25:29. Jonathan Perlman '19 had this to say about the team's performance at this meet: "Paul Short went very well for us! Almost all of the guys that raced there ran personal bests. I think the team did a good job running in a tight pack in a big field with our 1 to 5 runners only being 15 seconds apart. One thing we would like to improve on is having that pack be closer to Amherst and Williams' top runners which will be crucial if we want to win Nescacs."

The women's side also ran in the Paul Short gold grouping, but in a field of 41 teams. The top five runners garnered 877 points for the thirty-fifth spot. The top five were MacCary with a time of 21:31, Abigail Nadler '19 with a time of 21:36, Meg Wilson '20 with a time of 22:10, Tasha Greene '21 with a time of 22:16 and Rory Kelly '19 with a time of 22:20.

The women's team was very proud of their performance at this race.

"Our performance at Paul Short was a huge confidence boost for us," Read Allen '18 said. "We entered in the Gold race, which was far more competitive than the Brown race we ran in last year. When you're racing against some of the fastest women in the country, it can be seriously intimidating. Although the place we finished in doesn't reflect it, we had an incredible day with PRs almost all across the board. The fact that we could step it up in a big meet setting bodes really well for regionals and nationals."

The men's team finished the Vermont State Meet with 20 points to get first out of nine teams. In this race, the Panthers were able to capture the nine spots within the top eleven. Perlman came in second place overall with a time of 26:58.3. Kevin Serrao '18 in third clocked in at 27:11.4. Ben Hill '19 with a time of 27:19.0 got fourth. Graham Rainsby '21 in fifth had a time of 27:27.9 and in sixth was Will Meyer '20 with a time of 27:34.0.

21 points compiled by the women's team at the Vermont State Meet. In this race, Allen and Kate Glew '21 got first and second place with times of 19:08.6 and 19:19.0. Brianna Bisson '17, Leah Metzger '20 and Olivia Mitchell '20 got sixth, seventh and eighth with times of 19:51.4, 20:17.6 and 20:26.4.

"I would say after a weekend like this, it's easy to be optimistic about where we're heading. Our training is clearly paying off and all of those summer miles are starting to do great things for us! We're pretty pumped," Allen said.

Both the men's and women's teams won't race again until Saturday, Oct. 14, at the Connecticut College Invitational. Moreover, both teams are pumped and ready to continue their strong seasons.

"We will be able to take a break from racing and just focus on getting in really solid workouts," Perlman said. "I think we still haven't peaked as a team and can keep improving on our performances from this past weekend."

Allen expressed optimism for the women's team.

"I think physically we're ready to crush it at Connecticut College," Allen said. "Right now, we need to focus on getting mentally prepared. Our confidence is up after this past weekend, but we need to make sure that we're sustaining that through these next two weeks. We'll put in a lot of hard work, but in a sport like cross country, what really determines our fate is our mental game."

Quidditch Comes Home for Tourney This Saturday

ANDREW PLOTCH

The Middlebury Quidditch team will play host to the Middlebury Classic Quidditch Tournament. Over a dozen teams from the area with ascend onto Battell Beach this Saturday, Oct. 7. Additionally, several commons teams will take part and, yes, there will be a potion demonstration courtesy of the American Chemical Society. Full story on B7.

HERE COMES AMHERST

ANAHI NARANJO

The Panthers dismissed Colby 37-6 to move to 3–0 and set up a match-up with also undefeated Amherst this weekend.

B8

FIELD HOCKEY COASTS VS. COLBY

By CLAIRE MESSERSMITH

Middlebury Field Hockey, now an impressive 4–1 in the Nescac and 7–2 overall, swept Colby with a 6–1 win this past Saturday, Sept. 30. The Panthers, ranked seventh nationally, got on the board three times in both halves, only allowing one goal against 57 minutes into the game, on a penalty stroke.

The Panthers also defeated RPI 3–0 on Tuesday, Oct. 3, in a nonconference matchup.

GRACE JENNINGS '19

MIDDLEBURY ATHLETICS COMMUNICATIONS

Middlebury got on the board in the opening minutes and the team's first two goals were scored in quick succession, just ten seconds apart.

The first was a rebound that came off of the stick of Audrey Quirk '18, while the second goal followed when Marissa Baker '20 redirected a cross-pitch pass from Grace Jennings '19. Middlebury came out strong and controlled the match from wire-to-wire.

The Panthers added another goal to go up 3–0 before halftime when senior captain Annie Leonard '18 tallied her 62nd career goal as she lifted the ball up past Colby goalie Riley Whitmyer.

After the horn sounded and the second half got underway, the Panthers opened up a three goal in 10 minute barrage that all but sent the Mules packing.

Erin Nicholas '21 recorded two, the first and third of the onslaught, while Lauren Schweppe '18 tallied Midd's fifth with a blasted shot from the Mules' penalty corner.

Middlebury edged Colby 20–14 in shots, yet not even the box score does the Panthers' domination of Colby justice.

Against RPI, the Panthers won the game in a stretch of 14:15 when it scored all three of its goals in a 3–0 win.

Schweppe started the scoring off with her third goal of the season 10:32 into the game. Just 35 seconds later, Danielle Brown '21 finished off Jennings' cross for a 2–0 lead. This was Jennings' team-leading sixth assist of the season.

Jennings also added her third goal of the season to give Middlebury 3–0 lead it would never relinquish.

The team will be back in action for Nescac play this weekend, as they hit the road to take on no. 4 Tufts and Wesleyan.

NESCAC STANDINGS

FOOTBALL

School	Record
AMHERST	3-0
MIDDLEBURY	3-0
TRINITY	3-0
TUFTS	2-1
WILLIAMS	1-1
WESLEYAN	2-1
BATES	0-3
BOWDOIN	0-3
COLBY	0-3
HAMILTON	0-3

MEN'S SOCCER

School	Record	
	Conf.	Overall
TUFTS	4–1–1	7–1–1
CONN. COLLEGE	3–0–3	6–0–3
BOWDOIN	3–1–0	7–2–0
WILLIAMS	2–1–3	4–1–3
AMHERST	2–1–1	4–1–1
COLBY	2–2–1	4–3–1
HAMILTON	2–4–0	4–4–1
MIDDLEBURY	2–3–0	6–3–0
BATES	1–1–2	3–1–2
WESLEYAN	1–3–0	5–3–0
TRINITY	0–5–1	1–6–1

WOMEN'S SOCCER

School	Record	
	Conf.	Overall
WILLIAMS	6–0–1	8–0–1
CONN. COLLEGE	4–1–1	7–1–1
TUFTS	3–0–2	4–1–3
BATES	2–1–1	5–2–1
HAMILTON	2–3–1	4–3–1
MIDDLEBURY	2–2–1	5–2–1
TRINITY	2–3–0	3–5–1
BOWDOIN	1–2–1	5–2–1
AMHERST	1–4–0	4–5–0
COLBY	0–4–1	3–4–1
WESLEYAN	0–3–1	4–3–1

FIELD HOCKEY

School	Record	
	Conf.	Overall
TUFTS	6–0	7–2
MIDDLEBURY	4–1	6–2
HAMILTON	4–2	6–3
WILLIAMS	4–2	7–2
BOWDOIN	3–2	5–2
AMHERST	2–2	6–2
COLBY	2–3	5–3
TRINITY	2–4	4–4
BATES	1–4	3–5
CONN. COLLEGE	1–5	3–6
WESLEYAN	0–4	2–6

VOLLEYBALL

School	Record	
	Conf.	Overall
TUFTS	5–0	10–4
WESLEYAN	5–0	12–1
MIDDLEBURY	4–0	11–2
BOWDOIN	4–1	7–6
AMHERST	2–2	11–4
HAMILTON	2–3	6–5
BATES	1–3	7–6
CONN. COLLEGE	1–4	9–5
WILLIAMS	1–4	5–8
COLBY	0–4	2–9
TRINITY	0–4	6–6

Cuba, Blazye Lead Tennis

By ANDREW RIGAS

The men's and women's tennis teams competed in the biggest tournament of the fall season, the ITA Regional Championships on Friday to Sunday, Sept. 29 to Oct. 1.

The men's team hosted the tournament, and, for the first time in three years, a Middlebury player did not win the regional title. In the women's tournament at Williams, Catherine Blazye '20 led the Panthers by reaching the quarterfinal round in both singles and doubles, as she continued her strong start to the fall season.

Lubo Cuba '19 and the pair of Cuba and Will de Quant '18 entered the tournament as the one-seed in the singles and doubles draws, respectively, but neither emerged as winner.

Cuba did reach the semifinals before falling to Wesleyan first-year Adam Finkelman 6–2, 6–2. In the first day of competition on Friday, he defeated Amherst's Kevin Ma from Amherst 6–3, 7–6 (4), and Bowdoin's Justin Patel 6–4, 7–5. Then on Saturday, Cuba held off Sachin Raghavan from Williams 6–3, 6–7 (6), 6–3, before handling Luke Tercek from Bowdoin 6–2, 6–0 to reach the semifinals. Sunday morning, Cuba fell to Finkleman, ending his hopes of repeating as regional champion.

De Quant and Noah Farrell '19 advanced to the quarterfinals in the singles. De Quant did so by defeating Bowdoin's Larry Zhao 7 – 6 (5), 4–6, 6–3 and Wesleyan's Cam Daniels 3–6, 6–2, 7–5 on Friday, then MIT's Sean Ko 7–6 (5), 6–3 on Saturday. Later in the day, de Quant fell to Finkelman too, 6–2, 6–2.

Farrell won against Brandon Howard from Nichols 6–0, 6–0, Anupreeth Coramutla from Brandeis 6–3, 6–1, and Ananth Raghavan 7–5, 6–1. In the quarterfinals, eventual champion Brian Grodecki from Williams beat Farrell 6–3, 6–3.

Kyle Schlanger '18 and Timo van der Geest '18 also competed in singles. Schlanger reached the round of 16 before losing to second-seeded Steven Chen from Wesleyan, while van der Geest bowed out in the second round.

In doubles, Cuba and de Quant were upset in their first match of the tournament, when Nathan Kaplan and Sean Wei defeated them 8–3.

The pair of Farrell and Peter Martin '19, after losing its first match in the Middlebury Invitational two weekends ago, made a run to the finals of the doubles bracket. Bowdoin's Tercek and Grant Urken took down Farrell and Martin 6–4, 6–3 in the finals, denying them the regional championship and a spot in the ITA doubles national championships.

Van der Geest and Schlanger, Middlebury's other doubles pair, won its first two matches but then lost in the quarterfinals to Williams' Grodecki and Alex Taylor.

Blazye made the longest run on the women's side, advancing to the quarterfinal round. She won her two matches on Friday over Katherine Wiley from Tufts 6–4, 6–3 and Hannah Sweeney from Bates 6–4, 7–5. On Saturday, she made her way to the quarterfinals by dismissing Chloe Henderson 6–0, 6–1, but lost to sixth-seeded Leah Bush from Williams 6–7 (5), 7–6 (3), 11–9 there.

Heather Boehm '20 and Skylar Schossberger '20 also played their way into the round of 16.

Boehm came from behind to defeat Julia Cancio from Williams 4–6, 6–1, 7–5 and held off Polina Kiseleva from Wesleyan 6–4, 4–6, 6–0 on Friday. The following morning, fifth-seeded Mina Karamercan from Tufts beat Boehm 6–4, 6–1.

Schossberger earned the opportunity to play on Saturday by defeating Trinity's Vanja Babunski 6–1, 4–6, 6–0 and Tufts' Margot Shea 6–4, 6–0. On Saturday morning, she fell to Williams' Mia Gancayco 6–2, 6–2.

Katherine Hughes '20 and Maddi Stow '20 added first round victories in singles, but bowed out the next round.

In doubles, the fifth-seeded pair of Blazye and Stow ran into the quarterfinals. They lost a close 8–6 match there to Williams' Henderson and Rachel Cross. The third-seeded pair of Hughes and Schossberger won their first match 8–3, but also lost 8–6, this time in the round of 16 to Amherst's Avery Wagman and Anya Ivenitsky.

The team did so well this weekend," said Blazye. "We had 6 players gain places in the main draw which is unbelievable. The results showed how our hard work is paying off already, and this is just the beginning. I can't wait to see what the rest of the year holds."

The women return to action when they play in the Harvard Scramble on Friday to Sunday, Oct. 13 to 15.

The men will travel to Princeton this weekend to participate in the Farnsworth Invitational on Friday to Sunday, Oct. 6 to 8.

RIGAS' AND CASE'S NFL PICKS

Patriots (-5.5)@ Bucs Tonight 8:25 ET, NFL o/u: 55.5	Rigas: Patriots, over Case: Patriots, over
Bills @ Bengals (-3) 1 ET, CBS o/u: 39	Rigas: Bills, under Case: Bengals, over
Panthers @ Lions (-3) 1 ET, FOX o/u: 44	Rigas: Lions, under Case: Lions, under
49ers @ Colts (-1.5) 1 ET, FOX o/u: 43.5	Rigas: Colts, under Case: 49ers, under
Jets @ Browns (-2) 1 ET, CBS o/u: 39	Rigas: Jets, under Case: Browns, over
Titans @ Dolphins 1 ET, CBS o/u:	Rigas: Case: Titans, under
Chargers @ Giants (-3.5) 1 ET, CBS o/u: 44.5	Rigas: Chargers, over Case: Giants, under
Cardinals @ Eagles (-6.5) 1 ET, FOX o/u: 45	Rigas: Cardinals, under Case: Cardinals, under
Jaguars @ Steelers (-8.5) 1 ET, CBS o/u: 44	Rigas: Steelers, over Case: Jaguars, under
Ravens @ Raiders 4:05 ET, CBS o/u:	Rigas: Case: Raiders, over
Seahawks @ Rams (-2.5) 4:05 ET, FOX o/u: 47	Rigas: Seahawks, under Case: Rams, under
Packers @ Cowboys (-2) 4:25 ET, FOX o/u: 52.5	Rigas: Packers, over Case: Cowboys, under
Chiefs (-1) @ Texans 8:30 ET, NBC o/u: 47	Rigas: Chiefs, over Case: Chiefs, under
Vikings @ Bears MNF 8:30 ET, ESPN o/u:	Rigas: Case: Bears, under
Last Week	Rigas: 18–14 Case: 16–16
Overall	Rigas: 31–33 Case: 33–31

Men's Golf Misses Cut at Nescac Qualifiers
Women's Golf Looks Ahead to Nescacs

By WILL CASE

Last weekend, Sept. 30 and Oct. 1, saw a changing of the guard on both sides of the golf program.

For the women's squad, a second-place finish in the George Phinney Golf Classic hosted by Middlebury on the Ralph Myhre Golf Course is a sign of things to come for a team on the rise. The Panthers finished only three strokes behind Amherst and a whopping 12 strokes ahead of perennial powerhouse Williams, potentially a sign of things to come as the team heads to Taconic for the Nescac tournament next weekend.

Katharine Fortin '18 notched the third individual tournament title of her career last weekend in what will be one of her last tournaments playing at home (spring schedule pending).

Fortin shot an 81 on Saturday, well off the pace set by her teammate, Chloe Levins '20. Levins shot a 76 on Saturday which qualified as the second-lowest score carded on the weekend. However, Levins' 84 on Sunday put her on the outside-looking-in for the race for the individual top spot, but the strong weekend overall puts her in a good position for Nescacs this weekend.

Meanwhile, Fortin's Sunday round of 75 was the lowest round of the weekend, tied with Williams' Cordelia Chan. In the past, Fortin has found herself tied atop leaderboards neck-and-neck with Chan. But this time it was Fortin who got the last laugh.

Chan and Fortin followed a similar trajectory over the weekend, as both were faced with bouncing back in their second outings if they wanted to compete for the individual top spot. Fortin's Saturday round of 81 was just enough though, since Chan shot an 82, meaning that a putt here and there made all the difference.

"As soon as I walked off the 18th green on Sunday, it sunk in that this is my last year," Fortin said. "I am driven to make the most of next weekend at NESCACs. My teammates and I are ready to take on Taconic."

Fortin also talked about how it was important to have a good week in practice to insure the momentum carries over from last weekend.

"This week, we will work on the final round push that held us back this weekend, remembering that every shot really does matter and no bad shot can keep you from shooting a good score," she said. "Our negative thoughts are what have held us back from hoisting a trophy, and I know we are good enough to overcome them."

Helen Daily '19, Hope Matthews '18 and Blake Yaccino '20 shot 163, 164 and 165 for the weekend, good enough to support the effort spearheaded by Fortin and Levins to push the Panthers into second place.

But last weekend also saw a team that has dominated the men's side of the Nescac for a better part of the decade falter. Without Reid Buzby '19 and Phil Morin '19, both of whom are abroad, the Panthers battled through the fall season and hoped to patch things up by the time the qualifier for the spring championships rolled around.

The Panthers were on the right trajectory heading into the weekend, but they could not muster enough low rounds at the qualifier. After having won seven of the last 11 Nescac crowns and having made the Nescac tournament every year that a qualifier has been held, the Panthers' streak of dominance looks to be on hiatus.

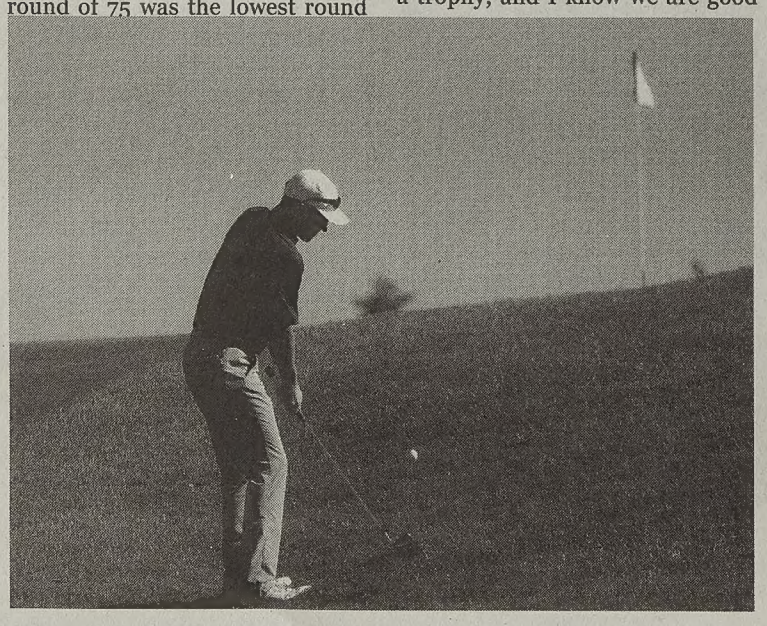
Jeffrey Giguere '20 managed a top-five round weekend with a 147 overall and a two-day split of 76–71. Giguere's strong performances this fall have been a bright spot for the Panthers.

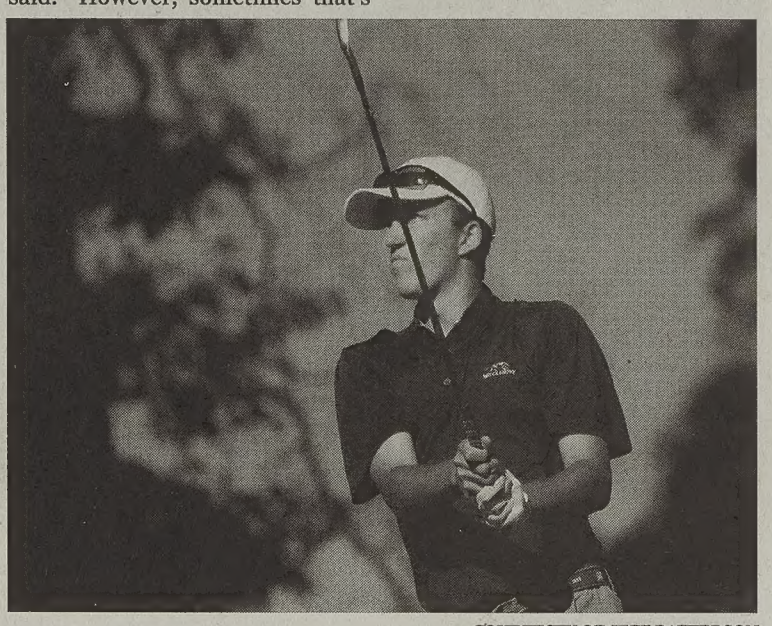
"It certainly was difficult to miss the cut this weekend," Giguere said. "However, sometimes that's just what happens and you can't do a whole lot about it. We still have some tournaments coming up so all is not lost."

Former Nescac individual champion Bennett Doherty '18 shot a 156 for the weekend. Doherty followed the round one–round two improvement narrative of Giguere, but Doherty's improvement was even more pronounced given that he bounced back from a round in which he shot 82 on Saturday with a 74 on Sunday.

Joe Ko '18 shot a 163 for the weekend and also saw a five shot improvement from his 84 on Saturday to when he turned in a 79 on Sunday. Ko's scores were slightly higher than they have been in his last several weeks of solid play. Likewise, David McDaniel '19 recorded scores that were slightly higher than his trajectory indicated he might perform, as he shot rounds of 82 and 83. First-year Jordan Bessalel '21 also saw action and shot a 169 for the weekend with rounds of 85 and 84.

Looking ahead, the women's team will look to seize on their momentum as they head into this weekend's Nescac championship on Oct. 7 and 8 at Taconic Golf Club in Williamstown, Massachusetts.





COURTESTY OF JEFF PATTERSON

Jeffrey Giguere '20 shot a two-day total of 147 to finish tied for third and qualify for the Nescac Championship this spring as an individual, along with teammate Bennett Doherty '18, a former Nescac Individual Champion.

GREAT 8 EIGHT

RANKING TEAM
Rigas' Reasoning

1 Volleyball
They're on a nine-game winning streak heading into a huge matchup this weekend against Wesleyan. I hope I'm not jinxing anything with this ranking.

2 Football
Middlebury (3—0) vs. Amherst (3—0).

3 Field Hockey
This weekend is enormous for Middlebury sports. Field hockey, second in the Nescac, will do battle with Tufts, who is undefeated and first in the conference.

4 Men's Tennis
Another solid performance, even if they didn't win it all.

5 Women's Tennis
Their biggest strength is in their depth, which does not exactly shine at an individual tournament.

6 Women's Soccer
Despite a couple of tough Nescac losses, the Panthers are still in the thick of things with a lot of season left.

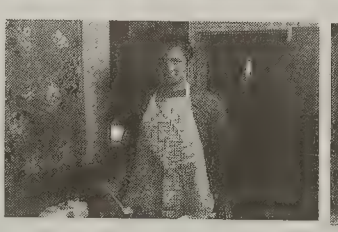
7 Men's Soccer
The Panthers have hit the skids with two Nescac losses in a row. They have a large matchup this weekend against Tufts, who is first in the Nescac.

8 Cross Country
Both teams won the Vermont State Meet, again.

EDITORS' PICKS

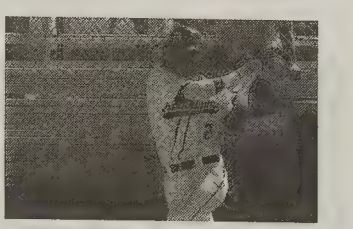
1. WILL CASE (104-67, .608)

2. ANDREW RIGAS (85-65, .567)



3. ROB ERICKSON (33-30, .524)

5. EMILY BUSTARD (109-115 .487)



4. SEBASTIAN SANCHEZ (35-38, .479)

Field hockey at Tufts (7–2, 6–0), Sat. 11 a.m.	TUFTS Vs. common opponents, Tufts has the upper hand (Tufts 2–1 Hamilton, Hamilton 3–2 Midd). I'll go with Rob's logic last week, this sets the course for redemption later.	MIDD Those are awfully thin margins of victory Will.	MIDD Learned not to doubt these women last week.	MIDD Midd can overcome the Jumbos' home field advantage!	MIDD Gotta be blue baby.
Volleyball vs. Wesleyan (12–1, 5–0), Sat. 2 p.m.	MIDD Barring unexpected setbacks, Wesleyan will ride in with six straight dubs and we'll enter with 10. Our SOS is better at this point and we've got home court.	WESLEYAN Hot, but not enough. Plus, I have to make up some ground on Case.	MIDD Panthers are hot, move along.	MIDD This should be a fun game to watch!	MIDD Our court, our rules. Let's go Midd.
Football at Amherst (3–0) Sat. 2 p.m.	MIDD While combined opponent record for the Panthers is 2–7, Amherst's SOS is even worse... Amherst combined opponent record: 0–9.	MIDD They beat the Mammoths last year, and I think we have a chance to be better and win the league this year.	MIDD When was the last time our football team lost to an extinct species?	AMHERST I went to high school with Kyle Obana, one of Amherst's DBs . . . so go Puns! (Reece Foy was also the quarterback at our rival school.)	MIDD I'm already feeling bad for the Mammoths. Like Rob said, they are extinct.
TNF: Pats at Bucs, 8:25 p.m. CBS/NFL	PATS While I'd love a Bucs so we can look back at the end of the season and laugh at how drastically we overreact a 2–3 start for NE, I won't overreact and say the Pats win this one.	PATS No way Touchdown Tom loses to a guy that was stealing crab legs a couple of years ago.	BUCS Don't have a lot of faith in the Pats D right now, and Doug Martin comes back from suspension this week. Famous Jameis gives 'em his signature crab legs treatment.	PATS I always pick them, ever since I predicted their Super Bowl win in 2002! (I was a very wise 3rd grader.)	PATS & the Brady Bunch As much as I don't want to, I bet against the GOAT once. I won't do it again.
Picking the LDS:					
WC–Dodgers:	WC	DODGERS	DODGERS	DODGERS	DODGERS
Cubs–Nats:	CUBS	NATS	NATS	CUBS	CUBS
WC–Indians	INDIANS	INDIANS	INDIANS	WC	WC
Red Sox–Astros	ASTROS	ASTROS	ASTROS	RED SOX	RED SOX

Women's Soccer Gets Much Needed Nescac Victory

By ROB ERICKSON

Faced with a crucial conference matchup at the midway point of their regular season, the Middlebury women's soccer team took care of business against Colby this past Saturday, Sept. 30. By defeating the Mules 1–0, the Panthers improved their Nescac record to 2–2–1 and remain within striking distance of the top teams in the division.

Earlier in the week, Middlebury had warmed up for conference play with a 5–0 drubbing of nonconference opponent Keene State on the road on Wednesday, Sept. 27. On Tuesday, Oct. 3, the Panthers defeated RPI 3–1.The combined wins allowed the Panthers to push their overall record to 6–2–1.

Coming into the week, head coach Peter Kim explained the direction he wanted his players to take, especially given some of the team's recent struggles to capitalize on scoring opportunities in Nescac play.

"We're still growing as a relatively young team, so players and units are still trying to find their scoring touch," he said. "We need to focus heavily on scoring goals, and this will be our focus for the foreseeable future."

That goal was certainly achieved in the midweek matchup against Keene State, in which the Panthers put up 20 shot attempts to the Owls' 10. Middlebury likely hoped to win by a more comfortable margin in the Colby matchup. After all, the lead they held in shots was even more substantial against the Mules (19–4 in shot attempts, 8–2 in shots on goal).

So while the Panthers fell prey to some of their old habits against Colby, their stellar work controlling the ball and limiting the Mules' offensive opportunities should not be overlooked either. Captain Maddie Morgan '18, who plays defense for Middlebury, made sure to note that at the end of the day, the week's games didn't leave too much to complain about.

"Our team came out of the week 2–0," she said, "which is the best scenario we can ask for. Against Keene State, we were able to get some great goals in. We also were able to put the game away against Colby, which, when it comes down to it, is what matters."

Saturday's matchup went scoreless in the first half, in which both teams fought hard but didn't have much to show for it in the way of shots on goal: both Ursula Alwang '20 and the Colby goalkeeper only had to make one save apiece. The Panthers did come close to scoring on a pair of corner kicks. About six minutes in, Alex Barber '19 sent a ball across that Eliza Van Voorhis '21 redirected toward the goal, only to have it gathered by the Mules' goalie; later, as the half wound down, Olivia Miller '20 saw her corner kick headed just over the crossbar by Leah Salzman '21.

In the second half, the Panthers came out determined to convert on one of their scoring opportunities and wasted little time in doing so. Midfielder Eliza Robinson '21 sent a free kick from near midfield deep into the penalty box, and Van Voorhis jumped at the chance to funnel it past the Colby keeper and into the back of the net. Not only was the goal Van Voorhis' third of the season, good for the team lead, but it also provided the occasion for Robinson to garner her third assist, tying her with Ellie Greenberg '20 for tops on the squad as well.

With that taste fresh in their mouths, the Panthers proceeded to send a flurry of shots on goal in the rest of the half, forcing the Mule keeper to make six more saves before the period ran out. Among these were a low shot from about 18 yards out by Emma Shumway '18, an attempt by Miller that was punched just over the crossbar, and a ball that Sabrina Glaser '20 sent just off the near post in the final minutes. However, the Panthers were as dominant defensively in the second half as they were in the first, and when the final buzzer sounded, they had more than earned the 1–0 victory over Colby.

Although Middlebury always plays with an eye toward their postseason — the Nescac championship and the NCAA tournament that follows — Morgan stressed that the team has some more immediate goals in mind as well.

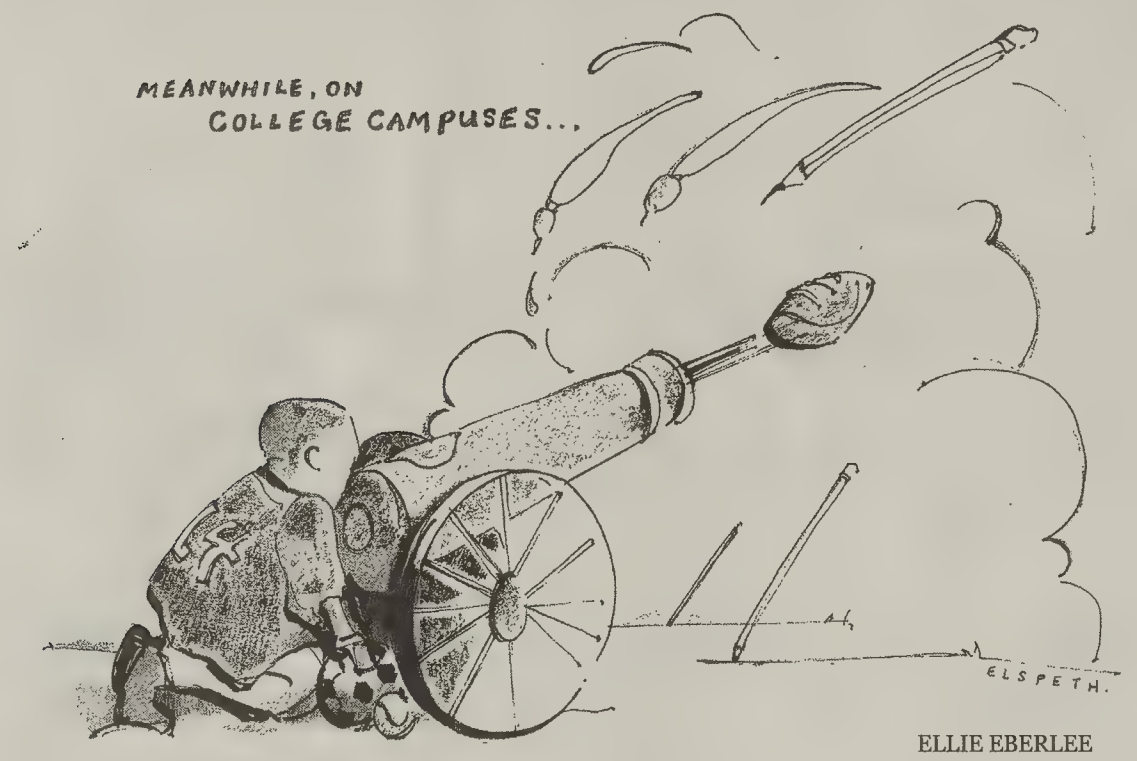
"For now," she said, "we're still getting used to the new formation we're using this year, so I think working out the kinks before those tournaments come is important. There are always things to work on, and I think continuing to get better at finishing in the final third is really important for us as a team."

Middlebury will take to the road for what might prove to be the most important weekend of their regular season, playing at Tufts on Saturday, Oct. 7, before taking on Wesleyan the next day on Sunday, Oct. 8.

EMMA STAPLETON

Ellie Greenberg '20 surveys the field from the left side in Middlebury's 1–0 win over Colby. With the win, the Panthers recover to .500 in league play.

JILL STAUFFER



ELLIE EBERLEE

KAITLYND COLLINS

MILLIE VON PLATEN

MICHAEL FRANK

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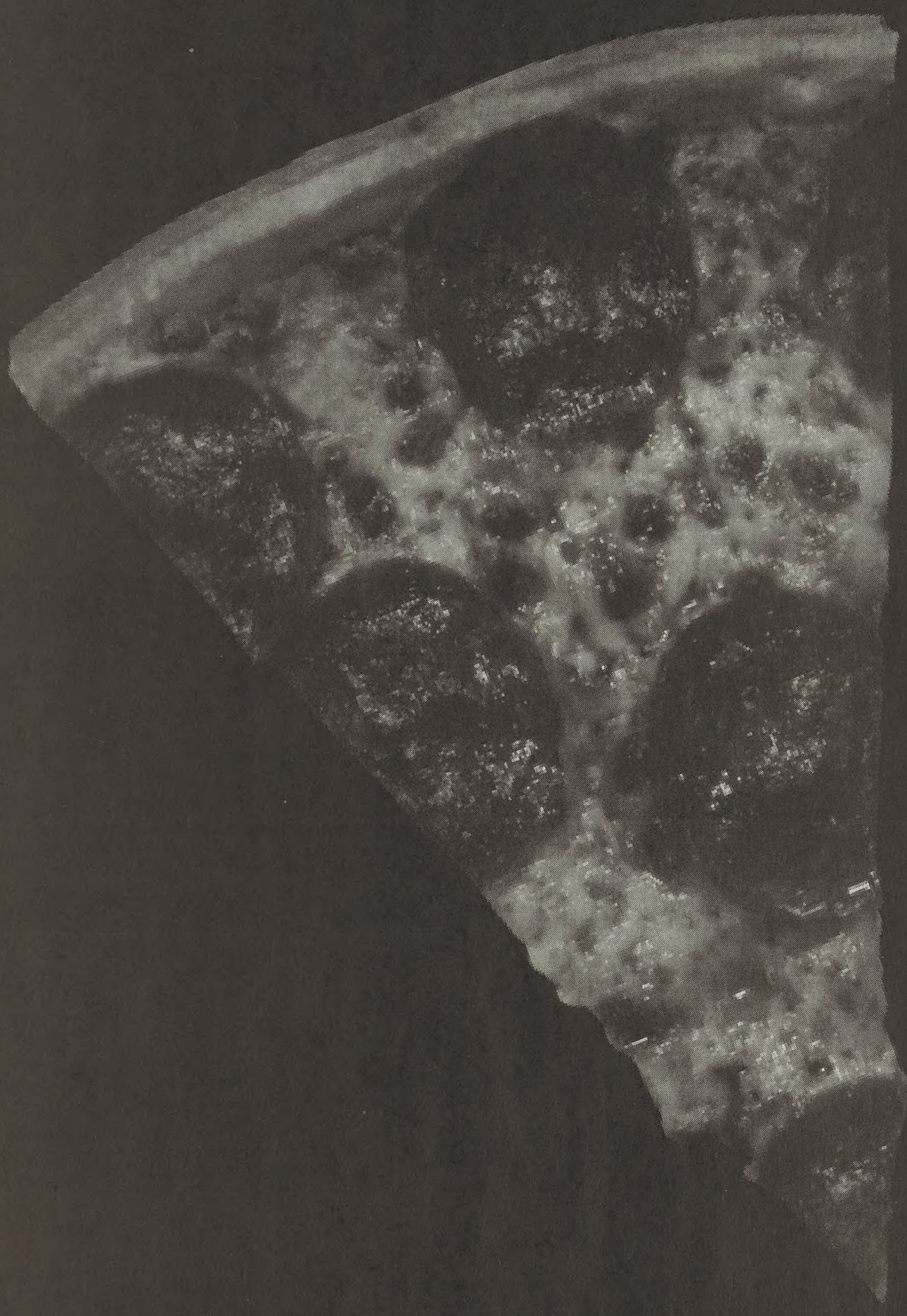

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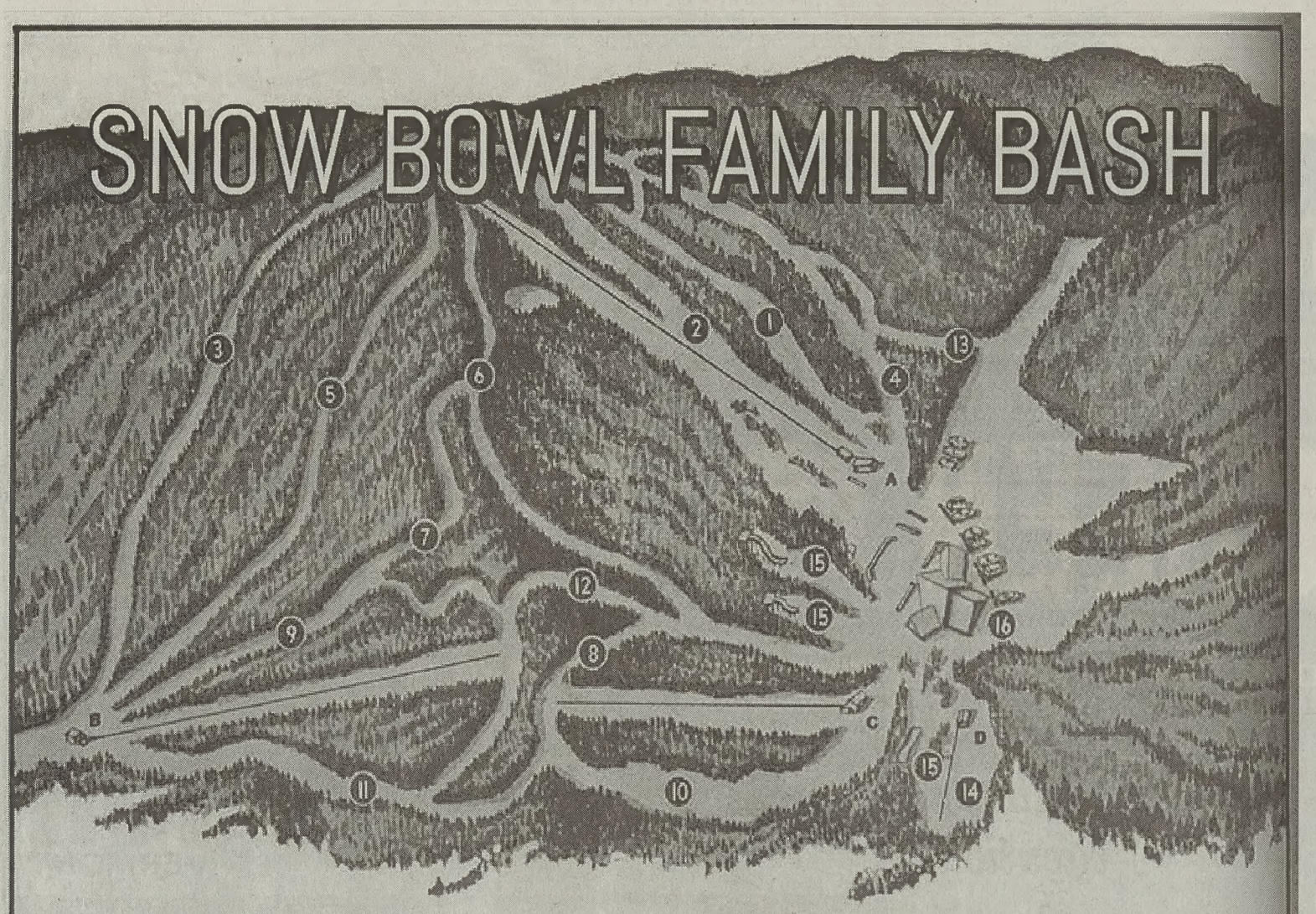

1 Ross Trail
2 Allen Slope
3 Youngman Trail
4 Proctor Trail
5 Kasper Trail*
6 Voter Trail
7 Meredith Trail
8 Hadley Trail
9 LaForce Trail
10 Lang Trail
11 Wissler Trail
12 Fletcher Trail
13 Worth Mt. Downhill Trail
14 Ski School Area
15 50, 35 & 15 Meter Jumps
16 Neil Starr Shelter
A Worth Mt. Chairlift 4200'
B Bailey Falls Pomalift 3200'
C Battell Pomalift 1800'
D Ski School Pomalift 750'

*Proposed 1970-1971

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Men's Soccer Rebounds from First Losing Streak against Plymouth St.

By RILEY PLANT

In their doubleheader weekend at home, the men's soccer team (5–3–0, 2–3–0) suffered a 2–0 loss at the hands of the Colby Mules last Saturday, Sept. 30, and managed a 1–0 win over Plymouth State last Sunday, Oct. 1.

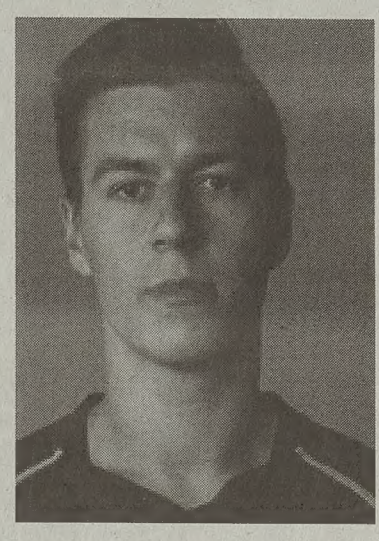
The shutout against Colby was not taken lightly by Middlebury, and on Sunday they outshot Plymouth 23–2 and put 10 of those on target, despite their only goal coming on a Plymouth own-goal in the 84th minute.

Middlebury felt immediate pressure in Saturday's contest against Colby. Just 2:37 into the game, Colby's Avery Heilbron got a foot on a loose ball in front of the Middlebury goal. Although the sure-handed Jeremy Yeager '18 was able to deflect the shot, Colby's Lucas Pereira beat out the Middlebury defense, collected the rebound and found the back of the net just moments later.

About five minutes later and still a goal down, Middlebury had a great chance to tie things up when Jeremy Barovick '19 rifled a shot through the hands of Mule goalkeeper Avery Gibson. Despite getting through the keeper's hands, Barovick's shot just missed the crossbar.

On the other end, at the 22:36 mark, Yeager displayed a piece of masterful goalkeeping when he was confronted with three rapid-fire shots at the feet of the Mules. Yeager managed to save two of the shots, and the Panthers blocked the third.

At the 54:11 mark, Colby's Pereira was fouled about 20 yards out, resulting in a free kick which Cam Clouse was able to slot in the upper left corner, leaving the score 2–0 for the Mules. Despite valiant scoring efforts from sophomores Fazl Shaikh '20 and Drew Goulart '20 in the late stages of the match, the Mules defense would reigned supreme on that particular day.



DREW GOULART '20.

MIDDLEBURY ATHLETICS COMMUNICATIONS

EMMA STAPLETON

Ben Potter '20 carries the ball in Middlebury's 1–0 win over Plymouth St. on Sunday, Oct. 1. The win snapped the Panthers' two-game losing streak.

"Our standard is to never drop games, especially when we are playing on our home field," Goulart said. "If we are unable to impose our style and and take control of a game then we look at that as a failure.

"We were unable to control the flow of the game and as a result failed to create any real chances," Goulart said, lamenting the missed opportunity against Colby. "Fortunately for us we were able to collect ourselves after the game and get our redemption the next day against Plymouth."

The following day, in a non-conference match against Plymouth State, Middlebury looked to have collected themselves. Despite only winning 1–0 off of an own goal by Plymouth, Middlebury possessed the ball well and created plenty of quality opportunities.

In the opening half, Middlebury managed 14 shots to Plymouth's 0. One of the Panthers' shots was an absolute rocket off the foot of Shaikh from 15 yards out. Plymouth goalie Linus Lindeberg made one of his nine saves in what was an admirable effort, in this particular instance making a spectacular diving save to deny the sophomore.

Middlebury hit everything but the back of the net until the 84th minute, when Goulart's flurry of footwork got him to the goal line on the left side. Goulart created enough space so he could manage to let a cross curl towards the middle of the field, just in front of the Plymouth goal, where a parade of players waited. The ball made fortunate contact with a Plymouth defender and landed in the net, putting Middlebury on top for good, 1–0.

"Although we only scored one goal, I think the game reinstalled in us a confidence that we needed in order to move forward with a level head and get ready for a big weekend," Goulart said. "As our legendary coach always says, 'soccer is a game of moments' — we created the scoring opportunities we needed but now we must capitalize on those moments."

The Panthers take the pitch again this Saturday, Oct. 7, when they hit the road to take on a Tufts team that was ranked No. 3 in the national polls prior to suffering a 1–0 road loss last Saturday against Amherst.

Quidditch Team to Host Tournament

By ANDREW RIGAS

Andrew Plotch '18 stopped at The Campus' table at the club fair two weeks ago, but he was not there to sign up. Instead, brimming with excitement, he handed this reporter a poster for the Quidditch tournament coming up on campus and asked for coverage.

This Saturday, Oct. 7, the Middlebury Quidditch team will be hosting the Middlebury Classic Quidditch Tournament on Battell Beach from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., competing against teams from Skidmore, UVM, RPI, Champlain College and a team featuring players from a combination of schools. And, for the first time in years, there is palpable excitement surrounding Quidditch at Middlebury, where the sport was founded in 2005.

"This past year, we decided we wanted to redefine Middlebury Quidditch," Plotch said. "Last fall, and again in the spring, we voted as a team to rejoin the U.S. Quidditch Association. We'll be travelling to New York and Boston a few times this fall to play in tournaments and regional competitions. Our team has gone from scrimmaging only on Sundays just a year ago to adding three weekday practices that focus on skills and strategy."

In addition to the inter-school competition, one team from each commons will compete against each other for the Commons Cup.

This was actually how competitive Quidditch began at Middlebury, as the winner of the Commons Cup went on to compete in the World Cup. Middlebury hosted each of the first three World Cups on Battell Beach, including the largest event in the history of the sport that 21 teams and 2,000 people attended.

Middlebury dominated the Quidditch world in its early existence, winning its fifth consecutive World Cup in 2013, but following that year, the team stopped competing in the U.S. Quidditch Association and the International Quidditch Association. Since then, it has competed unofficially and hosted small tournaments the last two years — until this year.

"At the beginning of every year, clubs are infused with new energy, but this year, Quidditch has an extra special feeling," said Plotch. "Everyone on the team is excited to take our game to the next level in U.S. Quidditch Association and we are bringing back old Middlebury traditions with this year's tournament. First-years and seniors alike are working hard, both playing on the pitch and planning with non-profits, to make this a redefining moment for Middlebury Quidditch. In the end, we all agree on one thing: Quidditch is back."

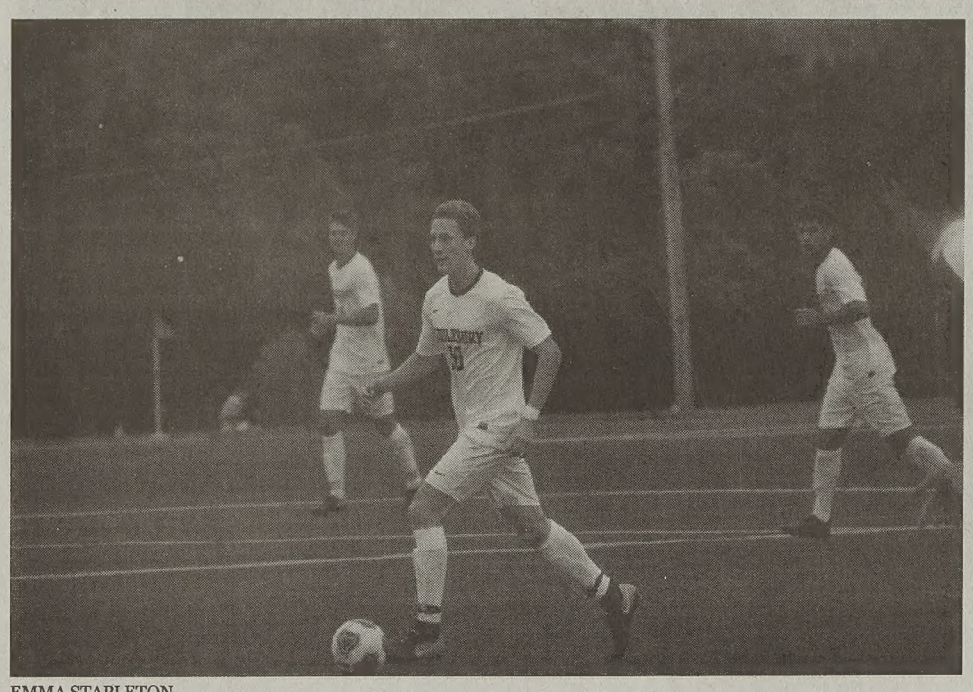
As the teams battle it out on the Battell Beach pitch, there will be various attractions for the spectators and players alike, if they are not too entranced in the games themselves.

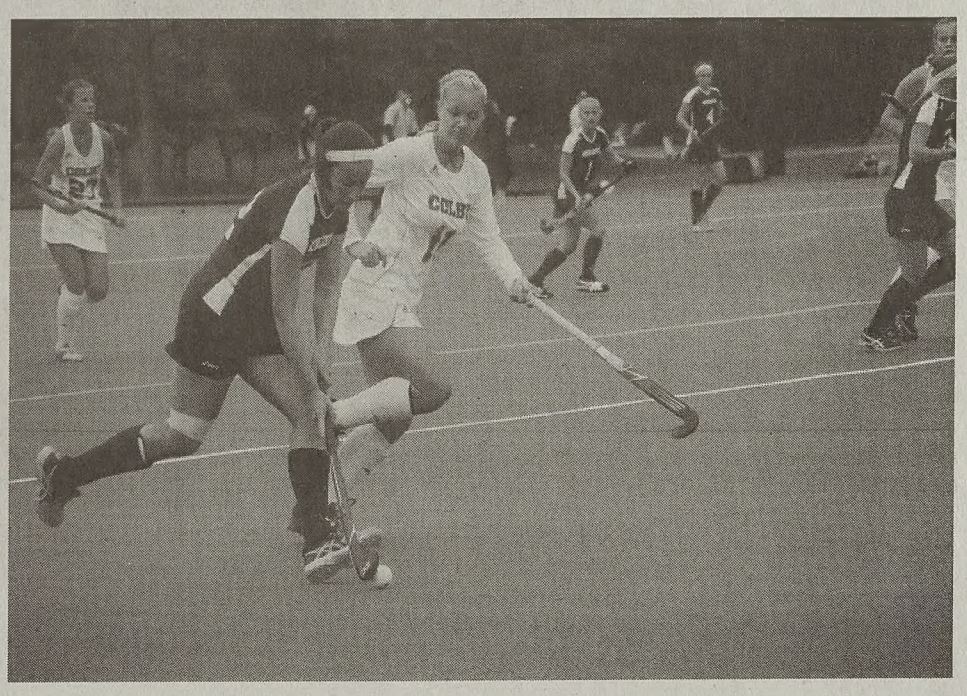
"This year, we are bringing back the magic," added Plotch. "Quidditch is not just about the game, it's about the experience, so we're partnering with organizations to make it magical. The American Chemical Society will be putting on potion demonstrations, MiddAcro will be doing acrobatics, and Addison County Readers is partnering with Page One Literacy to have a Harry Potter read-aloud booth. We also worked with MCAB to bring in bands who will be performing in the afternoon: Shy Shape, The Giant Peach, 10-Inch Personal Pizza and Aiden O'Brien. Of course, food is just as vital — food trucks and vendors are coming to feed everyone."

Plotch and the Quidditch team originally wanted to return to bring Middlebury back to prominence in the Quidditch community and saw hosting their own large-scale tournament to be a good place to start. They quickly realized the tournament had much larger implications than simply being an opportunity for this small group of the Middlebury community.

"When I started reaching out to local schools, libraries and businesses did I realize how important the Quidditch tournament used to be for the whole community," Plotch said. "I've been calling schools from Colchester to Rutland and everyone is excited. At the end of year, when we talked about our goals for Quidditch we discussed about making it important to the student body and having a competitive team. Now, I understand that we can reinvigorate an energy all over Addison County, that's my new goal."

Considering the frenzied look in Plotch's eyes at the activities fair, over two weeks before the tournament itself, who knows what the atmosphere will be like on Saturday.





EMMA STAPLETON

Football Rallies in Advance of Amherst Showdown

EMMA STAPLETON

Lebowitz Finds Banky

Jared Lebowitz '17.5 finds Conor Banky '19 for his second touchdown of the afternoon to give the Panthers a 17-6 lead. They went on to defeat the Mules 37-6 and move to 3-0 on the season, setting up a matchup with 3—0 Amherst this Saturday, Oct. 7 , at Amherst.

Raffel Racks Up Kills, Enters Record Books

By JAKE TURTEL

With three more wins, the Middlebury volleyball team pushes their winning streak to an impressive nine games, a mark they did not even reach last year when they won the Nescac crown.

"Our team is getting better each time we step on the court," Gigi Alper '20. "Our winning streak is fueling our fire and gives us a lot of confidence going into another challenging home week."

After they swept a mid-week tune-up against Colby-Sawyer, the Panthers were back in action in Nescac play last Friday, Sept. 29.

The Bates Bobcats visited Pepin and left with another loss (25–23, 25–22, 21–25, 25–22), dropping their record to 5–6 (1–2 in the conference). The match was more tightly contested than the mid-week affair with four points being the largest point spread in any set.

After falling behind the Bobcats 7–3 in the first set, Middlebury fought back to tie the game at 14 after a Bobcats attack error. Neither team pulled away as the match progressed, so Isabel Sessions '19's kill that clinched the first game for the Panthers was clutch.

In the second set, Bates went on top early again, grabbing a 15–9 lead. However, the early hole in which the Panthers found themselves did not intimidate last week's Nescac Player of the Week, Becca Raffel '18, who propelled a 16–5 run for the Panthers and capped the set with a kill down the line. During this momentum-setting set, Raffel became just the fifth Panther in program history to reach the 1,000-kill plateau.

Up 2–0 in sets, the Panthers finally found themselves take an early lead, cruising to the point where they had a 12–7 lead. This time, however, it was the Bobcats who made a late run.

Bates' 10–3 run was followed by a few attack errors that allowed Middlebury to regain the lead, 19–18, but the late-set surge was too much for the Panthers to overcome.

The fourth, and ultimately final, set was by far the closest. Neither team gained more than a two-point advantage as things were knotted up at 20–20.

Yet, having won plenty of close matches during their nine-game win streak, the Panthers were in familiar territory. The Panthers stayed characteristically cool under the pressure and notched five of the next seven points to take the set 25–22.

Raffel and Sessions paced the attack in the Bates match, as each provided 15 kills, while Gigi Alper '20 dug 27 balls and Emma Walsh '21, in her first Nescac action, dished out a match-high 49 assists. The Panther victory was due in large part to a dominating front line that roofed the Bobcats on numerous occasions, which Bates tried to counter by altering their strategy to rely more on dumps, but Middlebury adjusted and was unfazed.

"It was really exciting to get to play in conference games, and it was even better to play with such a great group of people," Walsh said.

With one Maine school defeated, a second came to town to try to take down the Panthers on Saturday, Sept. 30, but also left with an L. Middlebury defeated Colby College in straight sets (25–13, 25–13, 25–15), pushing their winning streak to nine games. The Panthers thoroughly dominated the match, as Schaefer led the charge on both offense, 11 kills on 17 attempts, and defense with four block assists. After being tied at seven in the opening set, the hosts scored the next nine; important in this run was Raffel, who at one point had three consecutive kills.

The rest of the match was not close. Aside from an 8–6 Panther lead in the second set, the Mules, who hit a low .038 compared to the Panthers' .393, were never within striking distance. Walsh contributed 32 assists and 12 digs while Emily Kolodka '18 had 11 digs and a service ace.

Middlebury currently ranks first in the Nescac in hitting percentage (.255) and second in kills per set (12.67), while Raffel leads the conference in kills (176). Most important though is the Panthers' standing in the Nescac: with four wins to zero losses, Middlebury sits atop the league along with fellow undefeated sides in Wesleyan and Tufts.

The Panthers will be back in action in Pepin tomorrow night at 8 p.m. when they start a pivotal homestand against Connecticut College. The premiere game of the weekend will take place in Pepin on Saturday, when Middlebury plays host to Wesleyan (12–1, 5–0), with match-time set for 2 p.m.

Panthers Score 34 Unanswered

By SEBASTIAN SANCHEZ

Hosting the Colby Mules at Alumni Stadium, Middlebury scored 34 unanswered points for its third straight win on Saturday, Sept. 30. The team is tied for first place with Amherst and Trinity and hope to beat "that team in purple" at its field next Saturday.

Middlebury scored the first three points at the eight-minute mark thanks to a Carter Massengill '20 field goal. The field goal, kicked from Colby's ten-yard line, was set up by four complete passes from Jared Lebowitz '18.

The Mules answered four minutes later after Lebowitz fumbled. With great field position, Colby's completed a pass for their first and only score of the game. The extra point was blocked by Robert Wood '18, giving the guest a 6–3 lead, but it would be short lived as the Panthers went on to score 34 points, all unanswered.

At the 11-minute mark in the second quarter, Middlebury started the drive on its own 43-yard line. After a fake punt play and 25-yard completion to the Minnesota native Jimmy Connell '21, Lebowitz found Banky in the end zone with a quick five-yard shovel pass to put the hosts up. Massengill converted the extra point and the Panthers led 10–6.

After a four-and-out series for the Mules, Middlebury started its drive on its 34-yard line. Lebowitz connected with Aidan Power '20 for 17 yards and Peter Scibilia '21 rushed three times for a total of 19 yards to put Middlebury at Colby's 19-yard line. After a Colby timeout, Lebowitz found Banky from 18-yards out for the Texas native's second of the day. After icing the extra point, the Panthers went up 17–6.

Middlebury did not score for the remainder of the second quarter, as a couple mistakes compounded on both sides of the ball. Even in the third quarter, a couple penalties and a Lebowitz interception were not good signs for the usual crisp Panthers. At the five-minute mark, Lebowitz marched his offense down the field starting at their own 20. Completing passes to Banky and two to Tanner Contois '18, including an 18-yard pass for a touchdown sealed the drive and expanded the hosts' lead to 24. Massengill had a great day behind the tee, going five for six on field goal attempts, including extra points.

Leading 24–6 heading into the fourth, the hosts found another surge to their offense after a four-and-out series by the Mules set up a punt from their own 18-yard line. Colby's punt went 43 yards, right into the arms of Jimmy Martinez '19, who dodged and weaved his way 61 yards for a Middlebury touchdown.

Four minutes later, the hosts placed Jack Meservy '19 in the QB slot. He completed a huge 22-yard pass to Power to get the Panthers to the Colby 46, alongside Charlie Ferguson '21, who rushed for 43 yards, including a 25-yard touchdown dash to put the hosts up for good, 37–6.

Nobody scored for the remainder of the game, and Diego Meritus '19, who is still injured, commented after the final horn.

"We all agree we made way too many mistakes that game — on both sides of the ball and even special teams. Although Colby is a good team, we are a lucky we were able to get away with some of the mistakes and still win. That will not be the case this week. Any small error can make a huge difference in the game. Last year we beat them by 1 and a block extra point made the difference. We will need to play a fundamentally sound game next week against that team in purple if we want to win."

The Panthers have no doubt they will clean up their mistakes ahead of one of the biggest games of the season. Banky and Lebowitz need to continue to play the way they are now, as Lebowitz had a stellar performance, passing 389 yard with three touchdowns, moving him up to a career high 40. Banky, who finished with two touchdowns — including the 17th of his career, tying Beau Coash '17 for the third on the school's all-time list — and 136 yards, will be an integral part of the offense this coming Saturday.

"[Lebowitz] and I have a developed a solid chemistry from playing three years together," Banky said. "He is a great leader and elevates everyone else around him, he makes me better. For me, I don't pay too much attention to my personal stats because a win for the team, is a win for me and that is my first priority."

The Panthers face their first big challenge against 3-0 Amherst on Saturday, Oct. 7.

EMMA STAPLETON

Martin Williams '20 battles in the trenches for the Panther defense that held Colby to six points and allowed only 179 yards.